
AUTOMORPHISMS OF HYPERBOLIC SURFACES

Notes made for thesis project

Manvendra Somvanshi

Updated on: January 25, 2024

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1 Torus and it's Automorphisms

Definition 1.1. Define the torus, T^2 as the quotient space $\mathbb{R}^2/\mathbb{Z}^2$ where two points are equivalent if their difference is in \mathbb{Z}^2 .

Note that this is homeomorphic to the usual definition $S^1 \times S^1$. The universal covering space of T^2 is \mathbb{R}^2 and it's fundamental group is \mathbb{Z}^2 . We identify the equivalence class of the closed curve $\gamma(t)$ based at $[(0,0)]$ with $\tilde{\gamma}(1) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$, where $\tilde{\gamma}$ is the lift of γ based at $(0,0)$ in \mathbb{R}^2 . This map, from $\pi_1(T^2) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^2$ is a bijection since \mathbb{R}^2 is simply connected (see theorem 54.4 on pg 345 in [1]).

Automorphisms on the torus correspond to elements in $GL_2(\mathbb{Z})$. Suppose that $\phi : T^2 \rightarrow T^2$ is an automorphism then it induces a map $\phi_* : \pi_1(T^2) \rightarrow \pi_1(T^2)$ which is an isomorphism. Since isomorphisms of \mathbb{Z}^2 are just invertible integer matrices. These are just $GL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ which is the same as matrices with determinant ± 1 . On the other hand any $A \in GL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ will induce an automorphism ϕ_A on T^2 where the mapping is just $[(x,y)] \mapsto [(x,y)A^t]$. The automorphism is orientation preserving if and only if the corresponding matrix A has positive determinant, i.e. 1.

Proposition 1.2. The correspondence $\text{Aut}(T^2) \rightarrow GL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ is a homomorphism. Moreover if A is in $GL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ then $(\phi_A)_* = A$; i.e. the correspondence is surjective.

Proof. Since $(\phi \circ \psi)_*[\gamma] = [\phi \circ \psi \circ \gamma] = \phi_* \circ \psi_*([\gamma])$ it follows that the map $\phi \mapsto \phi_*$ is a homomorphism. Let A be $GL_2(\mathbb{Z})$, then ϕ_A is well defined automorphism of the torus. Now ϕ_{A*} acts on $(m,n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2$ in the following way: (m,n) corresponds to the unique class $[\gamma]$ where $\tilde{\gamma}(1) = (m,n)$, so the action is given by $\phi_{A*}(m,n) = \widetilde{\phi_A \circ \gamma}(1)$. Since $\phi_A \circ \gamma(t) = \gamma(t)A^t$, the lifting of this at $(0,0)$ will be just $\tilde{\gamma}(t)A^t$ (since liftings are unique and this is a lift). Thus $\phi_{A*}(m,n) = (m,n)A^t$. Thus ϕ_{A*} just corresponds to the matrix A in $GL_2(\mathbb{Z})$. \square

Let A be a matrix in $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ and ϕ_A be the corresponding orientation preserving automorphism, then we can classify ϕ_A by looking at the properties of the matrix A . The characteristic equation of such a matrix is given by $x^2 - \tau x + 1$, where τ is the trace. We break this into three possibilities:

1. $\tau = 0, \pm 1$. In this case the characteristic equation is $x^2 + 1$, $x^2 - x + 1$, or $x^2 + x + 1$. Thus the eigenvalue are complex in this case. Using Cayley-Hamilton theorem A solves its characteristic equation. In each case we have $A^4 = I$, $A^6 = I$, or $A^3 = I$ resp.; hence $A^{12} = I$ in each case. Thus the map ϕ_A is also a finite order map. In this case ϕ_A is said to be periodic.
2. $\tau = \pm 2$. In this case the characteristic is $(x \pm 1)^2$. Both eigenvalues are either 1 or both are -1 respectively. Eigenvector of A is integral and thus correspond to (class of) closed curves on T^2 . The map preserves the (equivalence class of the) curve (reverses the direction when $\tau = -2$) represented by the eigenvector. No other curve is preserved under the map. These are powers of the Dehn Twists in C .

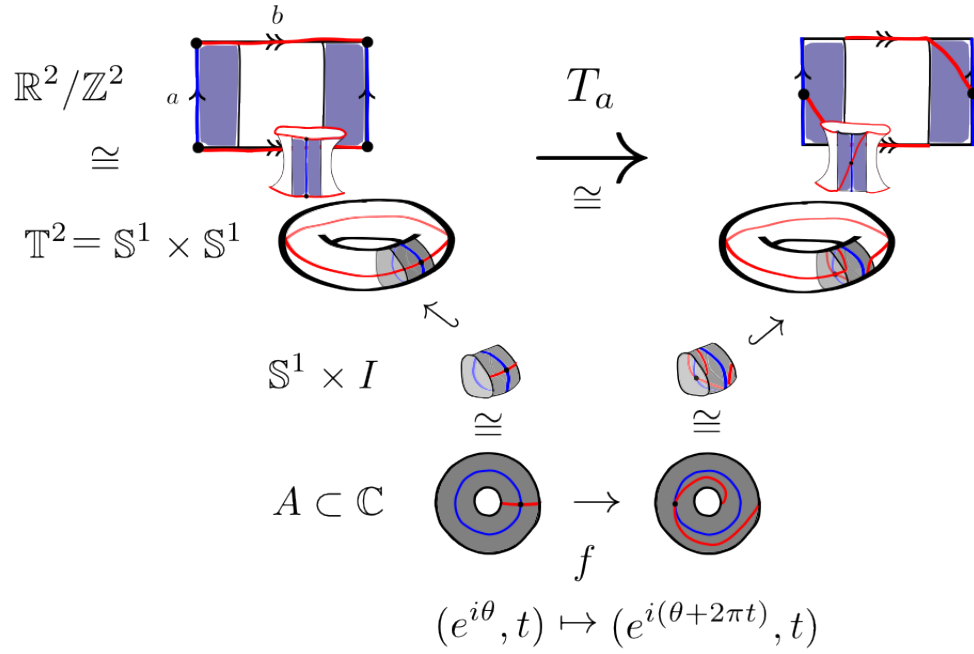


Figure 1: Dehn twist along the class of curves represented by $(1, 0)$ (blue). The red curve is in the class represented by $(0, 1)$. Source of image is wikipedia.

Definition 1.3. A Dehn Twist along a curve γ is defined in the following way: Let A be a regular neighborhood containing C such that A is homeomorphic to an annulus parametrized as (r, θ) . The the extension of the homeomorphism $\phi(r, \theta) = (r, \theta + 2\pi r)$ to the whole of the torus (via characteristic function on A), is called the Dehn twist.

Matrices corresponding to Dehn twists which preserve the curves corresponding to $(1, 0)$ and $(0, 1)$ are

$$T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ \& } S = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

respectively. *These matrices generate $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ as a group.*

3. $|\tau| > 2$. In this case the eigenvalues are distinct reals. The eigenvalues satisfy the relation $\lambda_1 \lambda_2 = 1$. Let $|\lambda_1| > 1$. Thus the eigenvalues are of the form $\lambda, 1/\lambda$. Let v_1, v_2 be the corresponding eigenvectors. Think of these as elements of $T_p(\mathbb{R}^2/\mathbb{Z}^2)$ (tangent space). Consider the curves $\gamma_i = v_i t$. The action of the map ϕ_A on γ_1 expands it by a factor of λ and on γ_2 it contracts it by λ^{-1} . Such maps are called *Anosov Maps*.

2 Hyperbolic Plane

Definition 2.1. The upper half plane model of the hyperbolic plane is the set of all points in \mathbb{C} with positive imaginary part, $\text{Im}(z) > 0$ with the metric given by

$$ds^2 = \frac{(dx^2 + dy^2)}{y^2}$$

We denote this by \mathbb{H} .

Definition 2.2. The hyperbolic length of a piecewise differentiable curve $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$ is given by

$$h(\gamma) = \int_0^1 \frac{|\dot{\gamma}(t)|}{\text{Im}(\gamma(t))} dt$$

The distance between two points z_1, z_2 is given by,

$$\rho(z_1, z_2) = \inf_{\gamma} h(\gamma), \quad \gamma(0) = z_1 \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma(1) = z_2$$

this is well defined since \mathbb{C} is path connected.

Proposition 2.3. ρ is a metric.

Proof. Suppose that $\rho(z_1, z_2) = \ell_1$ and $\rho(z_2, z_1) = \ell_2$. Now let γ be any curve from z_2 to z_1 . Then $\gamma(1-t)$ is a curve from z_1 to z_2 and since $h(\gamma) = h(\gamma(1-t)) \geq \ell_1$ it follows that ℓ_1 is also a lower bound and we must have $\ell_1 \leq \ell_2$. Repeating the same in the opposite direction we have $\ell_2 \leq \ell_1$. Hence ρ is symmetric.

Let z_1, z_2, z_3 be three points. Represent curves from $z_1 \rightarrow z_2$ by γ , $z_2 \rightarrow z_3$ by σ and $z_1 \rightarrow z_3$ by τ . Given any γ and σ we can construct a curve from z_1 to z_3 in following way

$$\tau(t) = \gamma * \sigma(t) = \begin{cases} \gamma(2t), & 0 \leq t \leq 1/2 \\ \sigma(2t-1), & 1/2 \leq t \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

The length $h(\gamma * \sigma) = h(\gamma) + h(\sigma)$ (linearity and change of variables). It follows

$$\begin{aligned} \inf_{\tau} h(\tau) &\leq \inf_{\gamma, \sigma} h(\gamma * \sigma) = \inf_{\gamma} h(\gamma) + \inf_{\sigma} h(\sigma) \\ \implies \rho(z_1, z_3) &\leq \rho(z_1, z_2) + \rho(z_2, z_3). \end{aligned}$$

Hence ρ satisfies triangle inequality.

Clearly $\rho(z, z) = 0$. Let z_1, z_2 be two points and γ be a curve between them. Then

$$\begin{aligned} h(\gamma) &= \int_0^1 \frac{|\dot{\gamma}|}{\text{Im}(\gamma)} dt \geq \left| \int_0^1 \frac{\dot{\gamma}}{\text{Im}(\gamma)} dt \right| \\ &> \frac{1}{M} \left| \int_0^1 \dot{\gamma} dt \right| = \frac{1}{M} |z_2 - z_1| \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

Where $M = \sup_{t \in [0,1]} (\text{Im}(\gamma(t)))$ (this is well defined since its a continuous function on a compact interval). This completes the proof. Suppose $\rho(z_1, z_2) = 0$ then $h(\gamma) < 0$ and hence $|z_1 - z_2| < 0$. Hence $z_1 = z_2$. \square

Proposition 2.4. The set of all Mobius transforms from $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ of the form

$$z \mapsto \frac{az + b}{cz + d}, \quad a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R} \quad ad - bc = 1$$

form a group, under composition. This group is isomorphic to $PSL_2(\mathbb{R}) = SL_2(\mathbb{R})/\{\pm I\}$.

Proof. The first part is trivial. For the second consider the map from $SL_2(\mathbb{R})$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \left(z \mapsto \frac{az + b}{cz + d} \right)$$

This is clearly surjective. Suppose that

$$\frac{az + b}{cz + d} = z \implies -cz^2 + (a - d)z + b = 0 \implies c = 0, \quad a = d, \quad b = 0.$$

Since $ad - bc = 1$ it follows that $a = \pm 1$. Hence ker of the map is just $\pm I$. \square

Note that any Mobius transformation in $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ can be written by composing the functions $z \mapsto az$, $z \mapsto z + b$, $z \mapsto -1/z$.

Proposition 2.5. The metric topology of \mathbb{H} is equivalent to the subspace topology induced from \mathbb{C}^2 .

Proof. Consider the two points $z, w \in \mathbb{H}$. Consider the curve $\gamma(t) = (z - w)t + w$. By definition

$$\rho(z, w) \leq \int_0^1 \frac{|\dot{\gamma}|}{\text{Im}(\gamma)} dt = |z - w| \int_0^1 \frac{dt}{(y - v)t + v} \leq |z - w| \int_0^1 \frac{dt}{\min\{y, v\}} = \frac{|z - w|}{\min\{y, v\}}$$

Where $\text{Im}(z) = y$ and $\text{Im}(w) = v$. Hence $\rho(z, w) \leq K_w |z - w|$ for some $K_w > 0$. From (1) we already know that

$$|z - w| \leq M \rho(z, w)$$

Hence the metrics are equivalent. \square

This is an important result since we can just check the continuity of functions under the regular metric. This helps reduce calculations.

Theorem 2.6. $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ acts on \mathbb{H} by homeomorphisms.

Proof. Suppose $z \in \mathbb{H}$ and

$$w = \frac{az + b}{cz + d}$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} w - \bar{w} &= \frac{az + b}{cz + d} - \frac{a\bar{z} + b}{c\bar{z} + d} \\ &= \frac{z - \bar{z}}{|cz + d|^2} > 0 \end{aligned}$$

Thus points on \mathbb{H} are mapped to \mathbb{H} itself. Since mobius transformations are bijective, continuous, and the inverse again is a mobius transformation it follows that it is a homeomorphism on \mathbb{H} . \square

Theorem 2.7. $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ is isomorphic to a subgroup of the isometry group of \mathbb{H} .

Proof. Let $z, w \in \mathbb{H}$ and $T \in PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ be a mobius transformation (a, b, c, d) . Let γ be a curve from z to w then $\sigma(t) = T(\gamma(t))$ is a curve from Tz to Tw . Since

$$\dot{\sigma}(t) = \frac{\dot{\gamma}}{(c\gamma + d)^2},$$

and

$$\text{Im}\{\sigma(t)\} = \frac{\text{Im}\{\gamma\}}{|c\gamma(t) + d|^2}$$

it follows that

$$h(\sigma) = h(\gamma).$$

Since T is bijective there is a bijective correspondence between curves from z to w and curves from Tz to Tw . Thus they have the same infimum, meaning that $\rho(w, z) = \rho(Tw, Tz)$. \square

Definition 2.8. Geodesics are curves with the shortest length between any two points in a metric space.

Theorem 2.9. The geodesics in \mathbb{H} are straight lines and semi circles perpendicular to the real axis. Moreover, between any two points in \mathbb{H} there exists a unique geodesic.

Proof. Consider the two points $z = a_0 + ia$ and $w = a_0 + ib$ in \mathbb{H} . For any curve $\gamma(t) =$

$x(t) + iy(t)$ between these points,

$$\begin{aligned}
h(\gamma) &= \int_0^1 \frac{\sqrt{\dot{x}^2 + \dot{y}^2}}{y(t)} dt \\
&\geq \int_0^1 \frac{|\dot{y}|}{y(t)} dt \\
&\geq \left| \int_0^1 \frac{\dot{y}}{y} dt \right| \\
&= \left| \log\left(\frac{b}{a}\right) \right|
\end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

But since the curve $\gamma_0(t) = i(b-a)t + ia + a_0$ also has the length $|\log(b/a)|$ it follows that $\rho(z, w) = |\log(b/a)|$. The geodesic, γ_0 , in this case is a straight line perpendicular to \mathbb{R} .

Now consider any two points $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{H}$. Then there is a unique circle which passes through z_1, z_2 and is perpendicular to the real line: $|z - a| = r$ where

$$a = \frac{|z_1|^2 - |z_2|^2}{2(\operatorname{Re}(z_1 - z_2))} \quad \& \quad r = |z_1 - a|.$$

There also exists a $T \in PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ which maps the above semi-circle in \mathbb{H} to the positive imaginary line. Explicitly this is:

$$T = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2r}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -a - r \\ 1 & -a + r \end{pmatrix}$$

Suppose that z lies on the semi-circle, then $z - a = re^{i\theta}$. Thus under the transformation

$$T(z) = \frac{e^{i\theta} - 1}{e^{i\theta} + 1} \in i\mathbb{R}^+$$

Hence the semi circle gets mapped to the imaginary axis, which is a geodesic. Since T is an isometry it follows that the semicircle is also a geodesic. The uniqueness follows from the fact that for any curve other than the straight line the inequality in 2 is strict, and hence only the straight line achieves the minimum length. By isometry argument it generalizes to the arbitrary case. \square

Definition 2.10. The set of points on the unique geodesic connecting w and z is represented by $[w, z]$.

Corollary 2.11. Let $z, w, \xi \in \mathbb{H}$ then,

$$\rho(z, w) = \rho(z, \xi) + \rho(\xi, w)$$

if and only if $\xi \in [z, w]$.

Proof. Suppose that $\xi \in [z, w]$. Then the geodesic γ from z to w on restriction gives a geodesic between z and ξ , because if not then there is some other σ between z, ξ such that

$h(\sigma) < h(\gamma|_{[z,\xi]})$, and then the curve

$$\tilde{\gamma}(t) = \begin{cases} \sigma(2t), & 0 \leq t \leq 1/2 \\ \gamma|_{[\xi,w]}(2t-1), & 1/2 \leq t \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

has smaller length, in contradiction to the fact that γ is the geodesic. Hence

$$\rho(z, w) = h(\gamma) = h(\gamma|_{[z,\xi]}) + h(\gamma|_{[\xi,w]}) = \rho(z, \xi) + \rho(\xi, w).$$

Conversely, suppose that the equality holds. Let γ_1, γ_2 be the geodesics between z, ξ and ξ, w respectively. The concatenation as above defines a curve between z and w , and

$$\rho(z, w) = \rho(z, \xi) + \rho(\xi, w) = h(\gamma_1) + h(\gamma_2) = h(\gamma_1 * \gamma_2)$$

Hence the concatenation is a geodesic. Thus $\xi \in [z, w]$. □

Theorem 2.12. $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ maps geodesics to geodesics.

Proof. Since, as seen already in theorem 2.7, $h(T\gamma) = h(\gamma)$ for all $T \in PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ and curves γ between z, w . Thus it follows trivially that if γ is a geodesic then so is $T\gamma$ □

Definition 2.13. A cross ratio, denoted $(z_1, z_2; z_3, z_4)$ is defined as

$$(z_1, z_2; z_3, z_4) = \frac{(z_1 - z_2)(z_3 - z_4)}{(z_1 - z_4)(z_3 - z_2)}$$

Proposition 2.14. Cross ratios are preserved under Mobius transformations.

Proof. The transformation T , given by

$$T(z) = \frac{z - z_2}{z - z_4} \frac{z_3 - z_4}{z_3 - z_2},$$

maps $z_2 \mapsto 0, z_4 \mapsto \infty, z_3 \mapsto 1$. $T(z_1)$ is exactly the cross ratio. Let S be any mobius transformation then TS^{-1} is the transformation which maps $Sz_2 \mapsto 0, Sz_4 \mapsto \infty$, and $Sz_3 \mapsto 1$. Hence $TS^{-1}(z) = (z, Sz_2; Sz_3, Sz_4)$. Hence $(Sz_1, Sz_2; Sz_3, Sz_4) = TS^{-1}(Sz) = T(z) = (z_1, z_2; z_3, z_4)$. □

Theorem 2.15. Let $w, z \in \mathbb{H}$ and γ be the geodesic between them. Extend γ in both directions and let $w^*, z^* \in \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$ be the end points of the extended curve (semi-circle or straight line perpendicular to real axis) such that $z \in [z^*, w]$. Then

$$\rho(w, z) = \log(w, z^*; z, w^*)$$

Proof. As seen before there exists a $T \in PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ such that T maps the extended γ to the

imaginary axis. Explicitly such a T is

$$T(\xi) = i \frac{\xi - z^*}{\xi - w^*} \cdot \frac{z - w^*}{z - z^*}$$

this maps z^* to 0, w^* to ∞ , and z to i . Note that the coefficient of T are indeed all real, and it can be made determinant 1 by multiplying and dividing by a real constant. And moreover,

$$T(w) = i \underbrace{\frac{w - z^*}{w - w^*} \cdot \frac{z - w^*}{z - z^*}}_r.$$

r must be greater than 1 since $|z - w^*| > |w - w^*|$ and $|w - z^*| > |z - z^*|$ (since we choose w to be closer to w^* and z^* is closer to z). The hyperbolic distance between $T(z)$ and $T(w)$ is $\log(r)$. Since $r = (ir, 0; i, \infty) = (T(w), T(z^*); T(z), T(w^*)) = (w, z^*; z, w^*)$. Hence the statement of the theorem follows. \square

Now we describe the Poincare Disk model of the Hyperbolic plane. Consider the unit disk \mathbb{D} , and the map $\phi : \mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$

$$\phi(z) = \frac{iz + 1}{z + i}$$

Clearly $|\phi(z)| = |z - i|/|z + i| < 1$ if and only if $z \in \mathbb{H}$. Also ϕ maps the real line to the boundary of \mathbb{D} . This map induces a distance ρ^* on \mathbb{D} given by

$$\rho^*(w, z) = \rho(\phi^{-1}(w), \phi^{-1}(z))$$

It follows that,

$$\begin{aligned} \rho^*(w, z) &= \inf_{\gamma} \int_0^1 \frac{|\frac{d\phi^{-1} \circ \gamma}{dt}|}{\text{Im}(\phi^{-1} \circ \gamma)} dt \\ &= \inf_{\gamma} \int_0^1 \frac{|\frac{d\phi^{-1}}{dz}|_{\gamma} |\dot{\gamma}|}{\text{Im}(\phi^{-1} \circ \gamma)} dt \\ &= \inf_{\gamma} \int_0^1 \frac{2|\dot{\gamma}(t)|}{1 - |\gamma(t)|^2} dt \end{aligned}$$

This gives the metric on \mathbb{D} to be

$$ds = \frac{2|dz|}{1 - |z|^2}.$$

This model of the hyperbolic plane is called the Poincare Disk. The geodesics here are circles perpendicular to \mathbb{D} and diametric lines in \mathbb{D} .

Definition 2.16. Let the group of all 2×2 matrices in \mathbb{R} with determinant ± 1 be denoted $S^*L_2(\mathbb{R})$. Let $PS^*L_2(\mathbb{R})$ be the group $S^*L_2(\mathbb{R})/\{\pm I\}$.

Proposition 2.17. Let $z, w \in \mathbb{H}$. Then

$$\sinh\left(\frac{1}{2}\rho(z, w)\right) = \frac{|z - w|}{2\sqrt{\operatorname{Im}(z)\operatorname{Im}(w)}}$$

Proof. Let T be in $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ then T leaves the LHS invariant. It is straight forward to check that the RHS is also invariant. Suppose $z = ia$ and $w = ib$ ($b > a$) then we know that $\rho(ia, ib) = \log(b/a)$ and thus

$$\sinh\left(\frac{1}{2}\rho(ia, ib)\right) = \frac{b - a}{2\sqrt{ab}} = \frac{|ib| - |ia|}{2\sqrt{\operatorname{Im}(ia)\operatorname{Im}(ib)}}$$

Using the fact that there exists a T which maps the geodesic between arbitrary z, w to a geodesic between ia, ib ; the result follows. \square

Theorem 2.18. The isometry group of \mathbb{H} is isomorphic to $PS^*L_2(\mathbb{R})$.

Proof. Let ϕ be any isometry. If $\xi \in [z, w]$ then

$$\rho(\phi(z), \phi(z)) = \rho(z, w) = \rho(z, \xi) + \rho(\xi, w) = \rho(\phi(z), \phi(\xi)) + \rho(\phi(\xi), \phi(w))$$

Thus $\phi(\xi) \in [\phi(z), \phi(w)]$. This means that isometries map geodesics to geodesics. Consider the positive imaginary line I which is a geodesic. Then $\phi(I)$ is also some geodesic. There exists a $g \in PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ such that g maps $\phi(I)$ to I . Without loss of generality we can assume $g(\phi(i)) = i$ (since $g(\phi(i)) = ai$, and dividing by a we get another element of $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$) and that it maps $(0, i)$ and (i, ∞) onto themselves (like in the previous theorem). Suppose that $g \circ \phi(yi) = vi$ then

$$|\log(y)| = \rho(yi, i) = \rho(g \circ \phi(yi), i) = |\log(v)|$$

Either $v = y$ or $v = 1/y$, but since the intervals $(0, i)$ and (i, ∞) are fixed it follows that $v = y$. Hence $g \circ \phi$ fixes I . Let $\gamma \circ \phi(x + iy) = u + iv$ then using the previous proposition on the points $x + iy$ and it we get

$$\frac{x^2 + (y - t)^2}{2y} = \frac{u^2 + (v - t)^2}{2v}$$

dividing by t^2 and taking $t \rightarrow \infty$ we get $v = y$ and $x^2 = u^2$. Thus

$$g \circ \phi(z) = z \quad \text{or,} \quad -\bar{z}$$

In the first case ϕ is in $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ and in the second case it is of the form

$$\phi(z) = g^{-1}(-\bar{z}) = \frac{a\bar{z} + b}{c\bar{z} + d}, \quad ad - bc = -1$$

Thus ϕ can be naturally mapped to an element of $S^*L_2(\mathbb{R})$. The homomorphism part of the mapping follows easily, and the kernel of the map is $\{\pm I\}$. Thus the isometry group is

isomorphic to $PS^*L_2(\mathbb{R})$. □

Note that $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ along with the map $h : z \mapsto -\bar{z}$ generates the isometry group. This means that the quotient space $PS^*L_2(\mathbb{R})/PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ is just $\{PSL_2(\mathbb{R}), h \cdot PSL_2(\mathbb{R})\}$ and thus has index 2. This means that $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ is normal in the isometry group.

The Riemannian metric of the Hyperbolic plane is induced by the inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : T_z\mathbb{H} \times T_z\mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by

$$\langle \zeta_1, \zeta_2 \rangle = \frac{1}{\text{Im}(z)^2} \text{Re}(\zeta_1 \bar{\zeta}_2)$$

This is an inner product on $T_z\mathbb{H}$ over \mathbb{R} . This induces a norm $\| \cdot \|$ on $T_z\mathbb{H}$ defined as

$$\|\zeta\| = \sqrt{\langle \zeta, \zeta \rangle} = \frac{|\zeta|}{\text{Im}(z)}$$

Since all isometries of \mathbb{H} are (real) differentiable, their pushforward gives a the map $d\phi_z : T_z\mathbb{H} \rightarrow T_{\phi(z)}\mathbb{H}$

$$d\phi_z(\zeta) = \frac{\pm \zeta}{(cz + d)^2}, \text{ where, } \phi(z) = \frac{az + b}{cz + d}, \text{ \& } ad - bc = \pm 1.$$

The pushforward is norm preserving since

$$\|d\phi_z(\zeta)\| = \frac{|\zeta|}{|cz + d|^2 \text{Im}(\phi(z))} = \frac{|\zeta|}{\text{Im}(z)} = \|\zeta\|$$

Using the polarization identity,

$$\langle \zeta_1, \zeta_2 \rangle = \frac{1}{2}(\|\zeta_1\| + \|\zeta_2\| - \|\zeta_1 - \zeta_2\|)$$

we can conclude that the pushforward of isometries preserve the absolute value of angles between vectors.

Definition 2.19. Angle between geodesics in \mathbb{H} is defined as the angle between the tangent vectors at the point of intersection.

Definition 2.20. A map on \mathbb{H} is said to be conformal if it preserves angles, and anti-conformal if it preserves absolute value of the angle but reverses direction.

Theorem 2.21. Transformations in $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ are conformal and the other isometries are anti-conformal.

Proof. We saw already that the pushforward preserves the absolute value of angles. But since the pushforward at each point is of the form

$$d\phi_z(\zeta) = \frac{\pm \zeta}{(cz + d)^2}, \text{ where, } \phi(z) = \frac{az + b}{cz + d}, \text{ \& } ad - bc = \pm 1.$$

it follows that $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ preserves direction while $z \mapsto -\bar{z}$ reverses orientation. \square

Definition 2.22. Hyperbolic area of a subset A of \mathbb{H} is defined as

$$\mu(A) = \int_A \frac{dx dy}{y^2}$$

Theorem 2.23. If $A \subset \mathbb{H}$ and $\mu(A)$ exists then the hyperbolic area is invariant under transformations of $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$.

Proof. Suppose that $z = x + iy$ and $Tz = u + iv$. Then using the Cauchy-Riemann equations the determinant of the Jacobian $\partial(u, v)/\partial(x, y)$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{\partial(u, v)}{\partial(x, y)} \right| &= \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \right)^2 \\ &= \left| \frac{dT}{dz} \right|^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{|cz + d|^4} \end{aligned}$$

Thus by change of variables

$$\mu(T(A)) = \int_{T(A)} \frac{du dv}{v^2} = \int_A \frac{|cz + d|^4}{|cz + d|^4 y^2} dx dy = \mu(A)$$

Thus the area is invariant under $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$. \square

Definition 2.24. An n -sided polygon in $\mathbb{H} \cup \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$ is defined by the area enclosed by n distinct geodesics. The vertices can lie on the boundary.

Theorem 2.25 (Gauss-Bonnet Theorem). A hyperbolic triangle Δ with angles α, β, γ has area $\mu(\Delta) = \pi - \alpha - \beta - \gamma$.

Proof. Case 1. Consider a triangle with one point on $\mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$ then there exists a transformation in $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ which takes the vertex on $\mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$ to ∞ . Thus w.l.o.g. we consider a triangle with two sides being lines perpendicular to the imaginary axis. Again w.l.o.g. (by a $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$ transformation) we can translate and scale the triangle such that the center of the semi-circle (the third side) is at 0 with radius 1. All these transformations preserve the area and the angles. The area of this triangle can be calculated

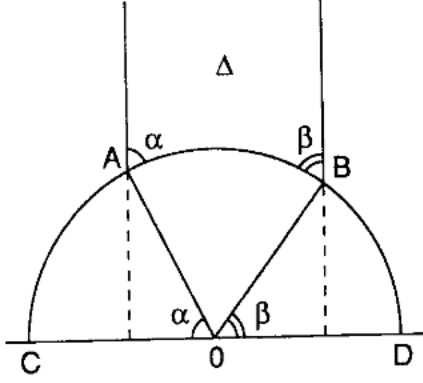


Figure 2: Case 1.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mu(\Delta) &= \int_{\Delta} \frac{dx dy}{y^2} \\
 &= \int_a^b dx \int_{\sqrt{1-x^2}}^{\infty} \frac{dy}{y^2} \\
 &= \int_a^b \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \\
 &= \int_{\pi-\alpha}^{\beta} \frac{-\sin \theta d\theta}{\sin \theta} \\
 &= \pi - \alpha - \beta.
 \end{aligned}$$

Case 2. Suppose that none of the vertices are on $\mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}$. There exists a transformation such that no two vertices lies on a vertical geodesic. Extend the side AB , of the triangle ABC , to a point $D \in \mathbb{R}$. Let $\Delta_1 = ACD$ and $\Delta_2 = CBD$. Then

$$\mu(\Delta) = \mu(\Delta_1) - \mu(\Delta_2) = \pi - \alpha - (\gamma + \theta) - \pi + \theta + (\pi - \beta) = \pi - \alpha - \beta - \gamma$$

This proves the theorem. □

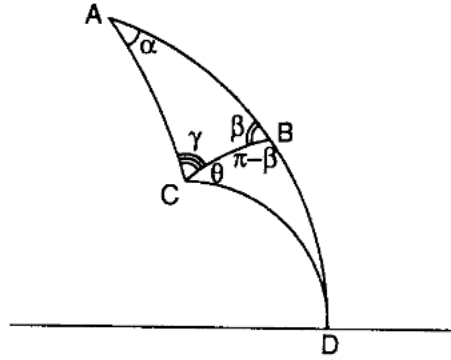


Figure 3: Case 2.

Corollary 2.26. The area of an n -gon with angles $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ is $(n-2)\pi - \alpha_1 - \dots - \alpha_n$.

Proof. This follows from induction. It is true for a triangle. Suppose it is true for an $n-1$ -gon. An n -gon can be divided into a triangle and an $n-1$ -gon by drawing an appropriate geodesic curve. Adding the areas of the two we get the result. \square

Theorem 2.27 (Brouwer's Fixed Point Theorem). Let $f : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$ be a continuous bijection on the disk. There is at least one fixed point.

Amazing proof using Functors. Suppose f fixes no point. Define the function $r : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow S^1$ in the following way: draw the line from $f(x)$ to x and extend it to the boundary of \mathbb{D} where it intersects with the circle at $r(x)$. Note that r fixes each point on S^1 . We have the short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow S^1 \xrightarrow{i} \mathbb{D} \xrightarrow{r} S^1 \longrightarrow 0$$

Since there is a functor $\pi_1 : \text{Top}_* \rightarrow \text{Grp}$ which maps a based topological space (X, x_0) to its fundamental group at x_0 . Applying this functor to the above exact sequence at any point, gives the short exact sequence

$$0 \longrightarrow \pi_1(S^1) \xrightarrow{\pi_1(i)} \pi_1(\mathbb{D}) \xrightarrow{\pi_1(r)} \pi_1(S^1) \longrightarrow 0$$

Since $\pi_1(S^1) = \mathbb{Z}$ and $\pi_1(\mathbb{D}) = 0$ we get that $\text{id}_{S^1} = \pi_1(r \circ i) = \pi_1(r) \circ \pi_1(i) = 0$, a contradiction. \square

Brouwer's theorem tells us that isometries of \mathbb{H} must fix at least one point, since \mathbb{H} is isometric to the disk. The following is a classification of

Theorem 2.28. Let T be an orientation preserving isometry of \mathbb{H} . Then one of the following happens:

1. T fixes only one point in \mathbb{H} .
2. T fixes only one point on the boundary of \mathbb{H} .
3. T fixes two points on the boundary of \mathbb{H} .

Proof. Since $T \in PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$, z is a fixed point if

$$z = \frac{az + b}{cz + d} \implies cz^2 + (d-a)z - b = 0$$

Thus

$$z = \frac{(a-d) \pm \sqrt{(a+d)^2 - 4}}{2c}$$

Thus case 1 corresponds to $a+d < 2$, 2 corresponds to $a+d = 2$, and 3 corresponds to $a+d > 2$. \square

3 Hyperbolic Structures on Surfaces

For the sake of consistency with the texts, I use the Poincare model of hyperbolic plane here.

Definition 3.1. Let X be a surface. A hyperbolic structure on X is an atlas of charts such that each chart $\phi : U \rightarrow \phi(U) \subset \mathbb{H}$ is a homeomorphism (equivalently this can be defined to all of \mathbb{H}) and the transition maps in the atlas are restrictions of orientation preserving isometries of \mathbb{H} .

Let $p \in X$ and (U, ϕ) be a chart around p . We can define an inner product on $T_p X$ as

$$\langle u, v \rangle_{T_p X} = \langle \phi_* u, \phi_* v \rangle$$

This is well defined since if (V, ψ) is another chart containing p then

$$\langle \psi_* u, \psi_* v \rangle = \langle \psi_* \circ \phi_*^{-1} \circ \phi_* u, \psi_* \circ \phi_* \circ \phi_* v \rangle = \langle \phi_* u, \phi_* v \rangle.$$

Since $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{T_p X}$ is a smooth bilinear map it serves as a Riemann metric on X . From here on I drop the subscript $T_p X$ on the metric. The norm induced by the metric will just be written $\| \cdot \|$. From here on we can think of Hyperbolic surface to be a topological surface with a hyperbolic Atlas and a Riemannian metric which is isometric to the hyperbolic metric locally. The metric induces a distance on X which is given by the infimum of the length of the curves.

Proposition 3.2. Let $\gamma : [0, 1] \rightarrow U \subset X$ be a curve in X between x_0 and x_1 . If γ is a geodesic then there exist charts (U_α, ϕ_α) such that they cover γ and $\phi_\alpha \circ \gamma|_{U_\alpha}$ is a segment of a geodesic in \mathbb{H} .

Proof. Suppose that γ is a geodesic. Let x be a point on γ . There exists a neighborhood U of this point which is isometric to \mathbb{H} by the ϕ . Let σ be some curve between the end-points of the curve $\phi \circ \gamma$ (which always exist since \mathbb{H} is complete). Then,

$$L(\sigma) = L(\phi^{-1} \circ \sigma) \geq L(\gamma) = L(\phi \circ \gamma)$$

since γ is a geodesic. Thus it follows that $\phi \circ \gamma$ is a geodesic. □

Theorem 3.3 (Half of Hopf-Rinow theorem). In a complete hyperbolic surface, all geodesics can be extended indefinitely.

Proof. Suppose that $\gamma : (-\epsilon, \epsilon) \rightarrow X$ is a bounded geodesic in X . Then consider a sequence of points $\gamma(t_n)$ where $t_n \rightarrow \epsilon$. Since X is complete the Cauchy sequence $\gamma(t_n)$ converges to a unique point, say x_1 . Let U, ϕ be some chart centered around x_1 . The image $\phi \circ \gamma$ is a geodesic by previous proposition. Extend this in \mathbb{H} indefinitely. Then the pull back of this extension extends γ at x_1 till a new end point x_2 . Repeating this process one can indefinitely extend γ . □

Theorem 3.4. Any complete, connected, simply-connected hyperbolic surface is isometric to \mathbb{H} .

Proof. Suppose X is a space with the mentioned properties. Consider the maps $E : \mathbb{H} \rightarrow X, D : X \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$ defined as follows:

- *The exponential.* Choose a point $a \in X$ and a chart (U, ϕ) such that $\phi(a) = 0$. For $x \in \mathbb{H}$ let γ be the geodesic between 0 and x and then extend the geodesic $\phi^{-1}(\gamma)$. Define $E(x)$ as the point on the extended geodesic such that $\text{dist}(a, E(x)) = \rho(0, x)$.
- *The developing.* Fix a point $a \in X$ and a chart (U, ϕ) around it. There exists a map $D : X \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$ such that D is a local isometry and $D|_U = \phi$. This claim is proven below:

proof of existence of D . Choose a path γ between points $a, b \in X$. The path can be cover by finitely many convex coordinate charts (due to compactness), say (U_i, ϕ_i) with $(U_0, \phi_0) = (U, \phi)$. Refine the covering such that it is minimal (so that U_i only intersects with $U_{i\pm 1}$ and no U_i is contained in U_j). Choose points $x_0 = a, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_n = b$ on γ such that $[x_i, x_{i+1}] \subset U_i$. If the maps ϕ_i and ϕ_{i+1} do not agree on $U_i \cap U_{i+1}$, which contains x_{i+1} , then there exists an isometry g (unique extension of $\phi_{i+1} \circ \phi_i^{-1}$) such that $g \circ \phi_i = \phi_{i+1}$ on their intersection. Thus without loss of generality we can assume that all the charts agree on the intersection (by replacing ϕ_{i+1} with $g \circ \phi_i$). Now define $D(b) = \phi_n(b)$.

(Well defined-ness). Clearly D is not dependent on the choice x_i . Now suppose $(U'_i, \phi'_i)_{i=0}^m$ is a different set of charts which minimally cover γ with $U_0, \phi_0 = U, \phi$ and such that the coordinate charts agree on the intersection. We show by induction that whenever $U_i \cap U'_j \neq \emptyset$ then $\phi'_j = \phi_i$ in the intersection. By construction $U_0 = U'_0$ and $\phi'_0 = \phi_0$. Since $U'_0 \cap U_1 = U_0 \cap U_1$ it follows that in this intersection $\phi'_0 = \phi_0 = \phi_1$. This is the base case of the induction. Suppose now that for all $s < j$ if $U'_s \cap U_i \neq \emptyset$ then $\phi'_s = \phi_i$ in the intersection for all i . Consider U'_j and suppose that it intersects with some U_i . There are two cases:

1. $U'_{j-1} \cap U_i \neq \emptyset$. In this case consider the intersection $U_i \cap U'_j \cap U'_{j-1}$. In this region $\phi'_j = \phi'_{j-1} = \phi_i$. Restricted to $\phi'_j(U_i \cap U'_j)$ the map $g = \phi_i \circ (\phi'_j)^{-1}$ is in $PSL_2(\mathbb{R})$. Since on $\phi'_j(U_i \cap U'_j \cap U_i)$ the map g is identity it follows that g is identity everywhere in $\phi'_j(U_i \cap U'_j)$ (since Mobius maps are fixed by 3 points).
2. $U'_{j-1} \cap U_i = \emptyset$. Then U'_{j-1} intersects U_{i-1} (by construction). In the region $U_{i-1} \cap U_j \cap U_{j-1}$ we have $\phi'_j = \phi'_{j-1} = \phi_{i-1}$ and thus $\phi' \circ \phi_{i-1}^{-1}$ is identity on infinitely many points. Thus they are the same on $U'_j \cap U_{i-1}$. In the region $U'_j \cap U_i \cap U_{i-1}$ we have $\phi'_j = \phi_{i-1} = \phi_i$. Using the same argument as before we have that $\phi_i = \phi'_j$ everywhere on $U_i \cap U'_j$.

Hence the induction step is complete. Since $b \in U'_m \cap U_n$ it follows that $\phi'_m(b) = \phi_n(b)$. Hence D is not dependent on the covering of γ . Now we need to show that D does not depend on γ . If γ' is some other curve. Since X is simply connected it follows that there is a Homotopy H between γ and γ' . Using continuity of H there exists an

ϵ so that the curves $H(s, t)$ and $H(s, t + \epsilon)$ can be covered by the same charts. Hence $\phi_n(b)$ is the same for both. Thus it follows that D is well defined. \square

Now that we have these two functions, note that $D \circ E = 1_{\mathbb{H}}$: let $x \in \mathbb{H}$ then $E(x)$ lies on a geodesic γ from a to $E(x)$ such that $\phi \circ \gamma$ is part of the geodesic connecting 0 and x . Let U_i be any minial cover of the geodesic from a to $E(x)$. Then $\phi_n(E(x))$ lies on the extension of the geodesic $\phi \circ \gamma$ and $\rho(0, D(E(x))) = \rho(0, x)$ since D and E are local isometries, but there is only one such point on the geodesic: x . Hence $D \circ E(x) = x$.

Note that on the image of E in X the map $E \circ D$ is identity. $E(\mathbb{H})$ is closed and open (since E is local injection it follows by Invariance of domain theorem). Since X is connected the only non-trivial clopen subset is X itself. Thus $E(\mathbb{H}) = X$. Hence $E \circ D = 1_X$. \square

As a consequence of the above theorem it follows that the universal cover of any hyperbolic surface X is isometric to \mathbb{H} .

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