

MT5830 - 4. Hyperbolic Isometries

① Let $g \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ be written as

$$g(z) = \frac{az + b}{cz + d} \quad \text{where } a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R} \text{ with } ad - bc = 1.$$

We know from tutorial sheet 3, question 3a) that

$$\phi \circ g \circ \phi^{-1}(z) = \frac{\frac{1}{2}(a+d+i(b-c))z + \frac{1}{2}(a-d+i(b+c))}{\frac{1}{2}(a-d+i(b+c))z + \frac{1}{2}(a+d+i(b-c))}$$

$\in \text{Con}^+(1)$

and that this is in standard form.

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}(\phi \circ g \circ \phi^{-1}) &= \frac{1}{2}(a+d) + \frac{1}{2}(a+d) \\ &= a+d \\ &= \text{tr}(g) \end{aligned}$$

as required.

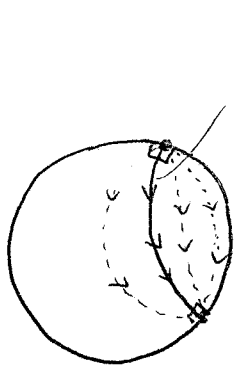
① continued... therefore we have the following classification:

a non-identity element $g \in \text{con}^+(1)$ is

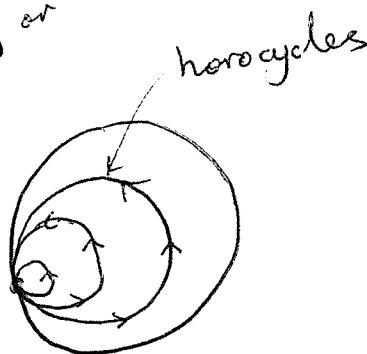
1) Hyperbolic $\Leftrightarrow \text{tr}(g)^2 > 4 \Leftrightarrow g$ has precisely 2 fixed points, both in S^1 .

2) parabolic $\Leftrightarrow \text{tr}(g)^2 = 4 \Leftrightarrow g$ has precisely 1 fixed point, which lies in S^1 .

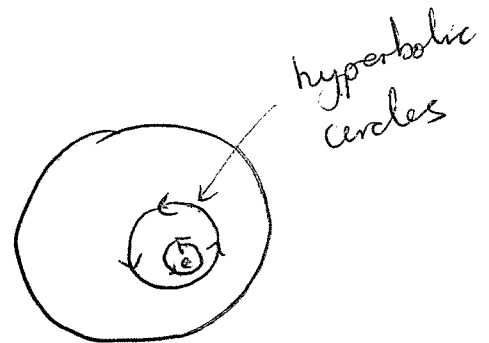
3) elliptic $\Leftrightarrow \text{tr}(g)^2 < 4 \Leftrightarrow g$ has precisely 2 fixed points, one in \mathbb{D}^2 and one in $\hat{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \{\mathbb{D}^2 \cup S^1\}$.



hyperbolic



parabolic



elliptic

② This question is open ended and designed³ just to make you think and explore.

Important relations you may have come across ~~are~~ include

$$\text{tr}(ghg^{-1}) = \pm \text{tr}(h), \quad \text{tr}(gh) = \pm \text{tr}(hg)$$

$$\text{tr}(g) = \pm \text{tr}(g^{-1}).$$

In particular, if we write elements in "standard form" such that $\text{tr}(g) \geq 0$, then

$$\text{tr}(ghg^{-1}) = \text{tr}(h), \quad \text{tr}(gh) = \text{tr}(hg).$$

$$\text{tr}(g) = \text{tr}(g^{-1})$$

Therefore, conjugation & inversion do not alter the "type" of an element.

③ (i) Suppose $g \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ is given
by $g(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$ and

$$g(\infty) = \frac{a}{c} = \infty, \quad g(0) = \frac{b}{d} = 0.$$

We deduce that $c=b=0$ and so

$$g(z) = \frac{a}{d} z.$$

Moreover, $\frac{a}{d} = a^2 \neq 0$ since $ad-bc=ad=1$

and $a^2 = 1 \Leftrightarrow g$ is the identity.

The result follows by setting $\alpha = \frac{a}{d}$

(ii) Suppose ^{parabolic} $g \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ is given

by $g(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$ and

$g(\infty) = \infty$. We deduce that $c=0$
as before and so

$$g(z) = \frac{a}{d} z + \frac{b}{d}. \quad \text{Suppose } \frac{a}{d} \neq 1. \text{ Then}$$

$\frac{-b/d}{a/d-1} \neq \infty$ is a second fixed point, which
contradicts g being parabolic.

$$\textcircled{4} \text{ (i) } \underline{\text{Fix}(hgh^{-1}) \subseteq h(\text{Fix}(g))}$$

let $z \in \text{Fix}(hgh^{-1})$. Then $hgh^{-1}(z) = z$
and so $gh^{-1}(z) = h^{-1}(z)$ and so

$$h^{-1}(z) \in \text{Fix}(g) \text{ and therefore}$$

$$z = h(h^{-1}(z)) \in h(\text{Fix}(g)).$$

$$\text{(ii) } \underline{h(\text{Fix}(g)) \subseteq \text{Fix}(hgh^{-1})}$$

let $z \in \text{Fix}(g)$. Then $g(z) = z$

$$\text{and } hgh^{-1}(h(z)) = hg(z) \\ = h(z)$$

and so $h(z) \in \text{Fix}(hgh^{-1})$.

Since every element of $h(\text{Fix}(g))$
can be expressed as $h(z)$ for some
 $z \in \text{Fix}(g)$, the result follows.

Thus we have given a second proof that
conjugation does not change the 'type'
of an element.

④ cont...

In particular

$$(i) \quad g \text{ hyperbolic} \Leftrightarrow |\text{Fix}(g) \cap \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}| = 2$$

and since $h \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ preserves the boundary

$$\begin{aligned} |\text{Fix}(g) \cap \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}| \\ = |\text{Fix}(hgh^{-1}) \cap \mathbb{R} \cup \{\infty\}| \end{aligned}$$

$$(ii) \quad g \text{ parabolic} \Leftrightarrow |\text{Fix}(g)| = 1$$

$$(iii) \quad g \text{ elliptic} \Leftrightarrow |\text{Fix}(g) \cap \mathbb{H}^2| = 1$$

and since $h \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ preserves \mathbb{H}^2

$$|\text{Fix}(g) \cap \mathbb{H}^2| = |\text{Fix}(hgh^{-1}) \cap \mathbb{H}^2|.$$

⑤ let $\lambda > 0$ and g be defined by

$$g(z) = \frac{z}{\lambda z + 1}$$

$$(i) \quad g(z) = \frac{1 \times z + 0}{\lambda \times z + 1} \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$$

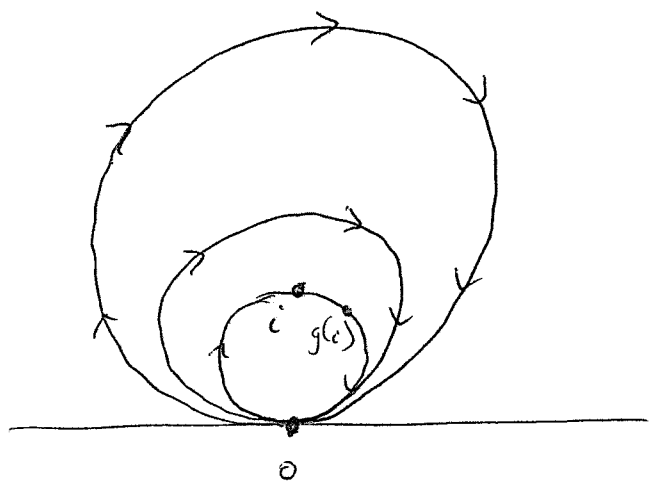
$$\text{since } 1 \times 1 - 0 \times \lambda = 1$$

$$(ii) \quad \text{tr}(g)^2 = (1+1)^2 = 4$$

and so g is parabolic

$$(iii) \quad \text{Suppose } g(z) = \frac{z}{\lambda z + 1} = z.$$

$z=0$ is a solution & since g is parabolic it is the only solution.



to test the 'direction' of the action

$$g(i) = \frac{i}{\lambda i + 1} = \frac{\lambda}{1 + \lambda^2} + \frac{i}{1 + \lambda^2}$$

and so i is moved clockwise round the horocycle!

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⑥ Let $g \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ be parabolic. We have already seen in lectures that we can conjugate g to the map $z \mapsto z + \beta$. That is, for some $h_1 \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$

$$h_1 g h_1^{-1}(z) = z + \beta \text{ for some } \beta \in \mathbb{R} \ (\beta \neq 0).$$

Let $h_2 \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ be given by

$$h_2(z) = \alpha z \text{ for some } \alpha > 0.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} & h_2 (h_1 g h_1^{-1}) h_2^{-1}(z) \\ &= h_2 \left(h_1 g h_1^{-1} \left(\frac{z}{\alpha} \right) \right) \\ &= h_2 \left(\frac{z}{\alpha} + \beta \right) \\ &= z + \alpha \beta. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore if we choose $\alpha = \frac{1}{|\beta|}$ then

$$(h_2 h_1) g (h_2 h_1)^{-1} = h_2 h_1 g h_1^{-1} h_2^{-1}$$

does the job!