

MT 5830 - 5 Fuchsian groups

①

① Let $g \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$ with standard form

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

and let $r = \frac{1}{2}$.

Suppose $h \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$ with standard

form $h(z) = \frac{a'z+b'}{c'z+d'}$ and $h \in B(g, \frac{1}{2})$.

Then $\|(a-a', b-b', c-c', d-d')\| < \frac{1}{2}$

which guarantees $|a-a'|, |b-b'|, |c-c'|, |d-d'| < \frac{1}{2}$.

Therefore $a'=a, b'=b, c'=c, d'=d$

and we can conclude that $g=h$,

~~$B(g, r) \cap \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) = \{g\}$~~ $B(g, r) \cap \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) = \{g\}.$

Thus $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$ is discrete and

Fuchsian as required.

(2)

$PSL(2, \mathbb{Q})$ is not discrete.

Let $g \in PSL(2, \mathbb{Q})$ with standard form $g(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$, $(ad-bc=1, a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Q})$,

and let $r > 0$ be given.

Consider $g_k \in PSL(2, \mathbb{Q})$ defined by

$$g_k(z) = \frac{\left(\frac{a + \frac{1}{k}}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{d}{k}}} \right) z + \frac{b}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{d}{k}}}}{\frac{c}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{d}{k}}} z + \frac{d}{\sqrt{1 + \frac{d}{k}}}}$$

(Note that this has been normalised).

Then $\|g - g_k\| \rightarrow 0$ as $k \rightarrow \infty$

and so if we pick k large enough to guarantee $\|g - g_k\| < r$, then

$$B(g, r) \cap PSL(2, \mathbb{Q}) \supseteq \{g, g_k\}$$

and so $PSL(2, \mathbb{Q})$ is not discrete (since $g \neq g_k$).

Let $\Gamma \leq \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ be Fuchsian.

(3)

(2) Suppose $g_k \in \Gamma$ such that
 $g_k \rightarrow g \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ (in the \mathbb{R}^4 metric).

We want to show $g \in \Gamma$.

Proof: It follows that $g_k g_{k+1}^{-1} \xrightarrow{\in \Gamma} \text{Id} \in \Gamma$.

Since Γ is discrete, we can find
 $r > 0$ such that $B(\text{Id}, r) \cap \Gamma = \{\text{Id}\}$.

Therefore for all sufficiently large

k , we must have $g_k g_{k+1}^{-1} = \text{Id}$.

Therefore for all sufficiently large

k $g_k = g_{k+1}$ and so $g \in \Gamma$, since $g_k \rightarrow g$
and the sequence g_k is eventually constant.

Note that subgroups of $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ need
not be closed, for example $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Q})$.

Also, discrete sets need not be closed,
for example $\{1/n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$.

(4)

③ Let (X, d) be a metric space, $K \subseteq X$ be compact & $P \subseteq X$ discrete and closed. Suppose $K \cap P$ is infinite. We can therefore find a sequence x_k of distinct points with $x_k \in K \cap P$ for all k . Since K is compact, we can find a convergent subsequence $x_{n_k} \rightarrow x \in K$. Since P is closed $x \in P$. Therefore

$B(x, r) \cap P$

is infinite for all $r > 0$, which contradicts P discrete.

If we do not assume P closed, then $X = \mathbb{R}$, $K = [0, 1]$ and $P = \{ \frac{1}{n} : n \in \mathbb{Z}^+ \}$ provides a counter example.

④ Suppose $K \subseteq \mathbb{H}^2$ is bounded. Then

$K \subseteq B(z_0, r)$ for some $z_0 \in \mathbb{H}^2$, $r > 0$.

Let $C_1 = \sup \{ |z| : z \in B(z_0, r) \} < \infty$

and $C_2 = \inf \{ \operatorname{Im}(z) : z \in B(z_0, r) \} > 0$.

Setting $C = \max \{ C_1, 1/C_2 \}$ does the job.

In the other direction, suppose

$K \subseteq \mathbb{H}^2$ is such that for some $C > 1$

(i) $|z| \leq C$, (ii) $\operatorname{Im}(z) > \frac{1}{C}$

for all $z \in K$.

Let $r = \sup \{ d_{\mathbb{H}^2}(i, z) : z \in K \} < \infty$.

Then $K \subseteq B(i, r)$ and is therefore bounded as required.

⑤

⑤(\Rightarrow) Suppose $\Gamma \leq \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ is a finite Fuchsian group. Then for $z \in \mathbb{H}^2$ we have:

$$|\Gamma(z)| = \left| \{g(z) : g \in \Gamma\} \right| \leq |\Gamma| < \infty.$$

(\Leftarrow) Suppose $\Gamma \leq \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ is a Fuchsian group such that for all $z \in \mathbb{H}^2$ the set $\Gamma(z)$ is finite.

Fix $z \neq i$ & suppose Γ is infinite. Therefore $g(z) = w$ for some $w \in \mathbb{H}^2$ & infinitely many ^{distinct} $g \in \Gamma$. Consider the orbit of i

and note that ~~$\Gamma(i) \cap B_{\mathbb{H}^2}(w, d_{\mathbb{H}^2}(i, z))$~~

Since Γ acts properly discontinuously

$$\Gamma(i) \cap B_{\mathbb{H}^2}(w, d_{\mathbb{H}^2}(i, z))$$

\nwarrow compact ball

is finite. Since Γ acts by isometry, for every $g \in \Gamma$ with $g(z) = w$, we have $g(i) \in B_{\mathbb{H}^2}(w, d_{\mathbb{H}^2}(i, z))$

(7)

Therefore we can find infinitely many distinct $g \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ such that

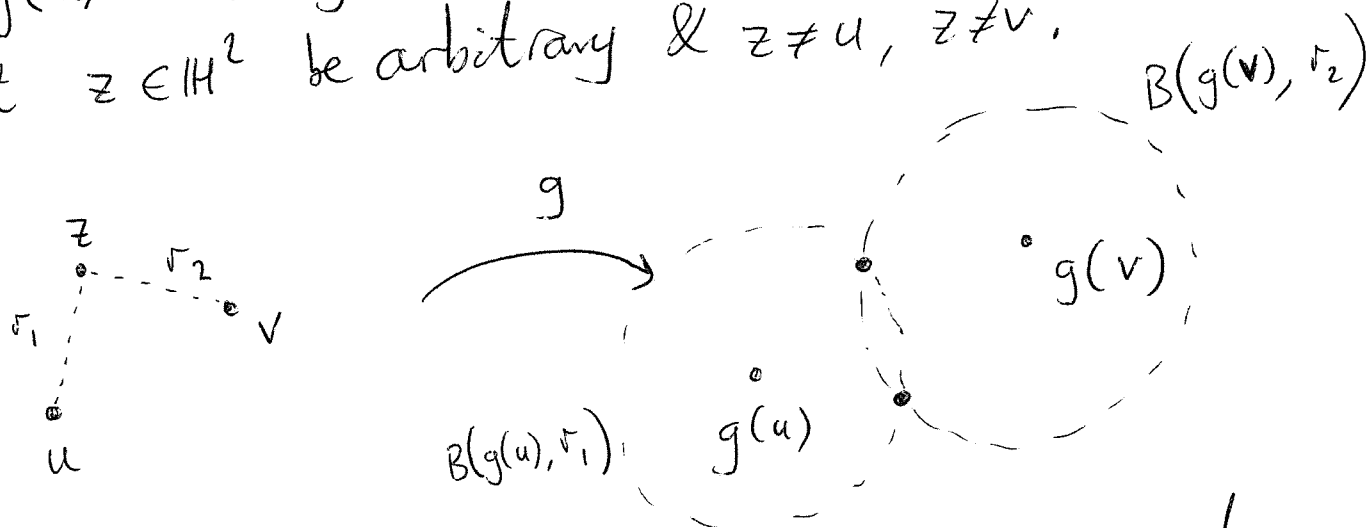
$$g(z) = w \quad \text{and} \quad g(i) = w'$$

(since otherwise $\Gamma(i) \cap B_{\mathbb{H}^2}(w, d_{\mathbb{H}^2}(i, z))$ cannot be finite).

This is a contradiction since $g \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ is determined uniquely by its action on 2 distinct points.

(To see this, suppose $g \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ is such that $g(u)$ and $g(v)$ are given, for $u \neq v$.

Let $z \in \mathbb{H}^2$ be arbitrary & $z \neq u, z \neq v$.



Then since g is an isometry, there are only 2 possible locations for $g(z)$. However one of these choices is orientation reversing.)

⑥ (\Rightarrow) Suppose $\Gamma \leq \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ is Fuchsian, let $z \in \mathbb{H}^2$ be arbitrary and fix $w \in \Gamma(z)$. Since Γ acts properly discontinuously $\Gamma(z) \cap B_{\mathbb{H}^2}(w, \frac{1}{2})$ is finite. Let

$$r = \frac{1}{2} \min \{ d_{\mathbb{H}^2}(w, v) : v \neq w, v \in B_{\mathbb{H}^2}(w, \frac{1}{2}) \cap \Gamma(z) \}$$

> 0 (think about why this is strictly positive)

Hence $B_{\mathbb{H}^2}(w, r) \cap \Gamma(z) = \{w\}$ and we may conclude $\Gamma(w)$ is discrete.

(\Leftarrow) Suppose $\Gamma \leq \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ is such that $\Gamma(z)$ is discrete for all $z \in \mathbb{H}^2$. Suppose Γ is not discrete and so we can find $g_n \in \Gamma$ such that $g_n \neq g \forall n$ and $g_n \rightarrow g$ (in \mathbb{R}^4 metric).

Consider $\Gamma(i)$ and $\Gamma(2i)$, which are both discrete. Since $g_n(i) \rightarrow g(i)$ & $g_n(2i) \rightarrow g(2i)$ (in $d_{\mathbb{H}^2}$ & l.i.) we conclude that for large enough n $g_n(i) = g(i)$ & $g_n(2i) = g(2i)$. Since $g \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$ is determined by its action on any two points we conclude $g_n = g$ for large n . A contradiction.