

Title

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Saturday 26th September, 2020

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Remark 1.

There is a natural action of $\mathrm{MCG}(\Sigma)$ on $H_1(\Sigma; \mathbb{Z})$, i.e. a *homology representation* of $\mathrm{MCG}(\Sigma)$:

$$\begin{aligned}\rho : \mathrm{MCG}(\Sigma) &\rightarrow \mathrm{Aut}_{\mathrm{Grp}}(H_1(\Sigma; \mathbb{Z})) \\ f &\mapsto f_*.\end{aligned}$$

Definition 1.0.1 (Special Linear Group).

$$\mathrm{SL}(n, \mathbb{k}) = \left\{ M \in \mathrm{GL}(n, \mathbb{k}) \mid \det M = 1 \right\} = \ker \det_{\mathbb{G}_m}.$$

Theorem 1.1 (*Mapping Class Group of the Torus*).

The homology representation of the torus induces an isomorphism

$$\sigma : \mathrm{MCG}(\Sigma_2) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathrm{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$$

Proof .

- For f any automorphism, the induced map $f_* : \mathbb{Z}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^2$ is a group automorphism, so we can consider the group morphism

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\sigma} : (\mathrm{Map}(X, X), \circ) &\rightarrow (\mathrm{GL}(2, \mathbb{Z}), \circ) \\ f &\mapsto f_*.\end{aligned}$$

- This will descend to the quotient $\mathrm{MCG}(X)$ iff $\mathrm{Map}^0(X, X) \subseteq \ker \tilde{\sigma} = \tilde{\sigma}^{-1}(\mathrm{id})$
 - This holds because any map in the identity component is homotopic to the identity,

and homotopic maps induce the equal maps on homology.

- So we have a (now injective) map

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\sigma} : \text{MCG}(X) &\rightarrow \text{GL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \\ f &\mapsto f_*.\end{aligned}$$

Claim: $\text{im}(\tilde{\sigma}) \subseteq \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$.

- We can thus freely restrict the codomain to define the map

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma : \text{MCG}(X) &\rightarrow \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \\ f &\mapsto f_*.\end{aligned}$$

Claim: σ is surjective.

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