

# Classification of Riemann surfaces

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## §1: Introduction

I would like to address the following

Question: How many Riemann surfaces are there out there (up to biholomorphism)?

- As a first approximation, we can compare Riemann surfaces with their underlying topological surface via the forgetful functor

Riemann surfaces  $\longrightarrow$  Topological surfaces

We understand topological surfaces rather well, especially the closed (compact, w/o boundary) ones:

Theorem (Brauer, 1921). Any connected closed top surface is homeomorphic to one of the following:

1) The sphere  $S^2 (\cong \mathbb{CP}^1)$

2) A connected sum of tori  $\Sigma_g = \mathbb{T} \# \dots \# \mathbb{T}$

3) A connected sum of projective planes  $M_p = \mathbb{RP}^2 \# \dots \# \mathbb{RP}^2$

(For non-compact top surfaces, the situation is more complicated).

- let us consider, as analogy, the situation for smooth surfaces: there is an equivalence of categories

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Smooth} & \xrightarrow{\cong} & \text{Topological} \\ \text{surfaces} & & \text{surfaces} \end{array} \quad \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Rado's 20s,} \\ \text{Munkres 60s} \end{array} \right)$$

saying that every top surface admits essentially a unique smooth structure. So a reasonable question is:

Q: Does every top surface admit a (unique?) Riemann surface structure?

- The first thing I would like to discuss is that there is an obstruction to admit a complex structure in terms of orientability:

Definition. A top. surface is called non-orientable if it admits a top embedding of a Möbius strip  $\text{Mob}_2 \hookrightarrow X$ ,

$$\text{Mob}_2 := \frac{D' \times D'}{(x, 1) \sim (-x, -1)}.$$

Examples. The surfaces  $M_p$  are non-orientable, because  $\mathbb{R}P^2 - \mathring{D}^2 \cong \text{Mob}_2$ .

Lemma (Orientability criterion). Let  $X$  be a top surface with its unique smooth structure. Then  $X$  is orientable if and only if there is a continuous choice of orientation for  $T_p X$  for  $p \in X$ .

• In the lemma, "continuous choice" means that around any point there is a chart

$U \subset X \xrightarrow{\gamma} \bar{U} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  such that  $\gamma_{*,p}: T_p X \xrightarrow{\cong} T_{\gamma(p)} \mathbb{R}^2 = \mathbb{R}^2$  is orientation-preserving for all  $p \in U$ .

Proposition. Any Riemann surface is orientable.

Pf. Recall from Brown's talk that any Riemann surface has an almost complex structure, i.e. a real vector bundle map

$$J: TX \rightarrow TX, \quad J^2 = -Id$$

(in fact this determines a Riemann surface structure). The almost-complex structure determines a canonical orientation on  $X$  with the property that for any  $0 \neq v_p \in T_p X$ ,  $(v_p, J_p v_p)$  is a positive basis for  $T_p X$ . The fact that  $J$  is smooth implies that the choice of orientation is continuous. □

Corollary. None of the surfaces  $M_p$  admits a Riemann surface structure.

• What about the rest of closed surfaces, do they admit a (unique?) complex str.? What about non-compact?

For topological spaces  $X$  (or non-pathological spaces in general), the situation is always  $X \cong \tilde{X}/G$  for some space  $\tilde{X}$  and a group  $G$  acting on  $\tilde{X}$ , which is isomorphic to an algebraic invariant of  $X$ , namely its fundamental group.

## §2: Covering theory for Riemann surfaces

Warning. In what follows all top surfaces will be assumed to be path-connected (= connected).

Recall. If  $X$  is a top surface and  $p \in X$ , the fundamental group of  $X$  is

$$\pi_1(X, p) := \frac{\{\text{loops at } p\}}{\text{homotopy rel } \{0, 1\}}$$

which is a group wrt concatenation of loops (not abelian in general). This is independent of the choice of basepoint (assuming  $X$  path-connected).

Eg,  $\pi_1(S^1) = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\pi_1(\mathbb{T}) = \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\pi_1(S^2) = 0$ ,  $\pi_1(\mathbb{RP}^2) = \mathbb{Z}/2$ , ...  
 $[t \mapsto e^{2\pi i t}] \mapsto n$

• A (path-connected) surface  $X$  with  $\pi_1(X) = 0$  is called simply-connected.

Definition. A covering map is a continuous map  $p: Y \rightarrow X$  st every point  $p \in X$

has a neighbourhood  $U$  st  $p^{-1}(U) \cong \coprod_{i \in I} U_i$ ,  $U_i \xrightarrow[p \cong]{} U$ .

Eg:



$$\mathbb{C}^* \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$$

$$z \longmapsto z^n$$

$$\mathbb{C} \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^*$$

$$z \longmapsto e^z$$

Definition. For a <sup>top</sup> surface  $X$ , write  $\text{Aut}(X) = \{ \text{self-homomorphisms } X \xrightarrow{\cong} X \}$ .

An action  $G \curvearrowright X$  of a gp  $G \subseteq \text{Aut } X$  is properly discontinuous if any point has a neighbourhood  $U$  st

$$g \neq g' \Rightarrow g(U) \cap g'(U) = \emptyset, \quad \forall g, g' \in G.$$

Lemma: If  $G \curvearrowright X$  prop. discount then the projection  $X \rightarrow X/G$  is a covering map.

Definition. Let  $p: Y \rightarrow X$  be a covering map. The group of deck transformations of the covering,  $\text{Aut}_X Y$ , is the gp of self-homeo  $Y \xrightarrow{\cong} Y$  covering  $p$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \xrightarrow{\cong} & Y \\ p \downarrow & & \downarrow p \\ & X & \end{array}$$

Fact: Every topological surface  $X$  has a unique (up to homeomorphism) simply-connected cover  $\tilde{X}$ , which is called its universal cover. There is an isomorphism

$$G(p) := \text{Aut}_X \tilde{X} \cong \pi_1(X)$$

and a homeomorphism

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \tilde{X} & \\ \text{proj} \swarrow & & \searrow p \\ \tilde{X}/G_{(p)} & \xrightarrow{\cong} & X \end{array}$$

• This is the general situation for top surfaces. Now we want to specialise to Riemann surfaces.

Remark. To avoid handling atlases, I will be using the following sheaf description of a Riemann surface: a topological space  $X$  w/ a sheaf of functions  $\mathcal{O}_X$  (this means that  $\mathcal{O}_X(U) \subset \mathcal{C}(U) = \{ \text{cont maps } U \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \}$  a  $\mathbb{C}$ -subalgebra, and

$$\bullet V \subset U \subset X \text{ and } f \in \mathcal{O}_X(U) \Rightarrow f|_V \in \mathcal{O}_X(V)$$

$$\bullet U = \bigcup_i U_i \text{ and } f|_{U_i} \in \mathcal{O}_X(U_i) \Rightarrow f \in \mathcal{O}_X(U)$$

such that every pt has a nbhd  $U$  st

$$(U, \mathcal{O}_U) \cong (\mathbb{D}, \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{C}}^{\text{hol}}) \text{ as ringed spaces.}$$

Proposition. Let  $\pi: Y \rightarrow X$  be a covering map where  $X$  is a Riemann surface.

Then there exists a unique Riemann str. on  $Y$  st  $\pi$  is a local biholomorphism.

Pf. Existence: Define a (pre)sheaf on  $Y$  as the pullback of that of  $X$ :

$$\mathcal{O}_Y := \pi^* \mathcal{O}_X, \quad \mathcal{O}_Y(V) := \mathcal{O}_X(\pi(V))$$

where we are taking into account that  $\pi(V)$  is open as  $\pi$  is an open map (because any covering map is a local homeomorphism). The sheaf condition is easily verified.

Now take  $q \in Y$  and let  $p := \pi(q)$ . Let  $U$  be an evenly covered open subset of  $p$  and take  $\tilde{U}$  the component of  $\pi^{-1}(U)$  containing  $q$ . Then we have  $\pi: \tilde{U} \xrightarrow{\cong} U$  and hence

$$(\tilde{U}, \mathcal{O}_{\tilde{U}}) \xrightarrow[\cong]{\pi} (U, \mathcal{O}_U) \cong (U, \mathcal{O}_X^{\text{hol}})$$

Uniqueness: Suppose that there are two Riemann structures  $(Y, \mathcal{O}_Y^1), (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y^2)$  such that  $\pi: (Y, \mathcal{O}_Y^i) \rightarrow (X, \mathcal{O}_X)$  is a local biholomorphism. Then we have  $\mathcal{O}_Y^1 = \mathcal{O}_Y^2$ , i.e.,

$$\mathcal{O}_Y^1(V) = \mathcal{O}_Y^2(V) \subset \mathcal{C}(V) \quad \forall V \text{ open in } Y.$$

For such  $V \subset Y$ , let  $\pi(V) = \bigcup U_i$  with  $U_i$  evenly covered. Let  $\tilde{U}_i$  be one lift of  $\pi^{-1}(U_i)$  in  $V$ , so that  $V = \bigcup \tilde{U}_i$  with  $\pi: \tilde{U}_i \xrightarrow{\cong} U_i$ . Then

$$\mathcal{O}_Y^1(\tilde{U}_i) \xrightarrow[\cong]{\pi} \mathcal{O}_X(U) \xleftarrow[\cong]{\pi} \mathcal{O}_Y^2(\tilde{U}_i)$$

so  $\mathcal{O}_Y^1(\tilde{U}_i) = \mathcal{O}_Y^2(\tilde{U}_i)$ . We conclude by the sheaf condition.  $\square$

Corollary. If  $X$  is a Riemann surface, so is its universal cover  $\tilde{X}$ .

Proposition. Let  $X$  be a Riemann surface and let  $G \subset \text{Aut}_{\text{hol}}(X)$  be a group acting properly discontinuously through biholomorphisms. Then there exists a unique Riemann surface structure on  $X/G$  such that  $X \rightarrow X/G$  is a local biholomorphism (and a covering map).

Pf Similar to the previous one; now use  $\mathcal{O}_{X/G}(U) := \mathcal{O}_X(\pi^{-1}(U))$ . □

• The previous results show that any Riemann surface is  $\tilde{X}/G$  where  $\tilde{X}$  is a simply-connected Riemann surface and  $G \subset \text{Aut}_{\text{hol}}(\tilde{X})$  acts prop. disc. So roughly we need to answer two questions to have a classification.

- a) What Riemann surfaces  $\tilde{X}$  are simply-connected,
- b) How many subgroups  $G \subset \text{Aut}_{\text{hol}} \tilde{X}$  acts prop disc.

• The answer to the first question is answered by

Theorem (Uniformisation, Poincaré - Koebe 1907). Any simply-connected Riemann surface is biholomorphic to exactly one of the following:

1)  $\mathbb{CP}^1 \cong \mathbb{C}_\infty$

2)  $\mathbb{C}$

3)  $\mathbb{D}^2 \cong \mathbb{H}$



Remark. The plane and the open disc are homeomorphic but not biholomorphic, because any <sup>hol</sup> map  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathring{D}^2 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{C}$  would be bounded and hence constant by the Liouville theorem.

• We will not prove this here, as none of the existing proofs is elemental and showing this would require one entire lecture. For the curious reader, a readable sketch of the proof in terms of Green functions can be found in XVI.6 of "Complex Analysis" by T.W. Gamelin.

• The uniformisation theorem leads to the following

Theorem (Classification of Riemann surfaces): Any connected Riemann surface  $X$  is biholomorphic to  $M/G$  where  $M = \mathbb{C}_\infty, \mathbb{C}$  or  $\mathbb{H}$  and  $G \subset \text{Aut}_{\text{hol}} M$  acting prop. disc. Furthermore  $\pi_1(X) \cong G$ .

Besides, two groups  $G, G' \subset \text{Aut}_{\text{hol}}(\tilde{X})$  acting prop. disc. define biholomorphic Riemann surfaces if and only if they are conjugated in  $\text{Aut}_{\text{hol}} \tilde{X}$ .

Pf let  $\tilde{X}$  be the universal cover of  $X$ . By the corollary,  $\tilde{X}$  is a simply-connected Riemann surface, so by the uniformisation theorem  $\tilde{X} = \mathbb{C}_\infty, \mathbb{C}$  or  $\mathbb{H}$ . If

$$G := \text{Aut}_{\text{hol}, X} \tilde{X} \subset \text{Aut}_{\text{hol}} \tilde{X} \quad (G \cong \pi_1(X))$$

then by the proposition  $\tilde{X}/G$  is a Riemann surface and by the fact

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \tilde{X} & \\
 \text{proj} \swarrow & & \searrow \pi \\
 \tilde{X}/G & \xrightarrow{\cong} & X
 \end{array}$$

where the homeomorphism is actually a biholomorphism by the uniqueness of the Riemann structure on  $\tilde{X}/G$ . □

- The upshot is that we can divide Riemann surfaces into three classes, depending on its universal cover:

<u>ELLIPTIC</u>	<u>PARABOLIC</u>	<u>HYPERBOLIC</u>
$\mathbb{C}_\infty$	$\mathbb{C}$	$\mathbb{H}$

- So, according to the classification theorem, the study of Riemann surfaces amounts to the study of the prop disc subgroups of  $\text{Aut}_{\text{hol}}(M)$  (up to conjugacy) for  $M = \mathbb{C}_\infty, \mathbb{C}$  or  $\mathbb{H}$ .

### § 3. ELLIPTIC CASE

Lemma. The biholomorphisms  $\mathbb{C}_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty$  are precisely the Möbius transformations

$$f(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}, \quad ad-bc \neq 0.$$

(that is, the biholomorphisms  $\mathbb{CP}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{CP}^1$  are precisely the homographies). That is,

$$\text{Aut}_{\text{hol}}(\mathbb{C}_\infty) \cong \text{PGL}_2(\mathbb{C}) := \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{C}) / \mathbb{C}^*$$

↑ projective general linear grp

Pf. Recall that  $\mathbb{CP}^1 \cong \mathbb{C}_\infty$ . Then we have the following diagram, where  
 $[z:w] \leftrightarrow z/w$

we already saw the first row:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{ratios } \frac{p(z,w)}{q(z,w)} \\ \text{of hom. poly. of} \\ \text{same degree} \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{meromorphic} \\ \text{functions on} \\ \mathbb{CP}^1 \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{holomorphic} \\ \text{maps} \\ \mathbb{CP}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty \\ \text{not id } \infty \end{array} \right\}$$

$\downarrow \text{II}$ 
 $\downarrow \text{II}$ 
 $\downarrow \text{III}$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{ratios } p(z)/q(z) \\ \text{of polynomials} \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{meromorphic} \\ \text{functions on} \\ \mathbb{C}_\infty \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{holomorphic} \\ \text{maps } \mathbb{C}_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty \\ \text{not id } \infty \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\frac{p(z)}{q(z)} \longmapsto f(z) = \begin{cases} p(z)/q(z) & \text{if } z \text{ not a pole} \\ \infty & \text{if } z \text{ a pole} \end{cases}$$

so we are left to see which of these are bijections: we claim that  $\deg p \leq 1$ :

for if  $p$  has different roots, it is not injective by the fundamental theorem of algebra; and if it has a root of order say  $n$ , then the local mapping theorem would say that locally it is  $n$ -to-1, so it couldn't be injective either. The same applies to  $q$

arguing w/  $\frac{1}{f} = q(z)/p(z)$ . So  $f(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$ , and to be a bijection num and den cannot be proportional, i.e.  $ad - bc \neq 0$ , as otherwise  $f$  would be constant.

Fact. Any Möbius transformation  <sup>$\neq \text{id}$</sup>  has exactly one or two fixed points.

- A group that contains an element  $\neq \text{id}$  w/ fixed point cannot act prop. disc, so

Corollary.  $\mathbb{C}_\infty$  is the only elliptic Riemann surface.

#### § 4. PARABOLIC CASE

Lemma. The biholomorphisms  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  are precisely the affine transformations

$$f(z) = az + b, \quad 0 \neq a, b \in \mathbb{C}$$

That is,

$$\text{Aut}_{\text{hol}} \mathbb{C} \cong \text{Par}_2 := \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} : 0 \neq a, b \in \mathbb{C} \right\}.$$

"parabolic group".

Pf. Suppose  $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  biholomorphism. Then it extends to a biholomorphism

$\hat{f}: \mathbb{C}_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\infty$  defined as  $\hat{f}(\infty) = \infty$  and  $\hat{f}(z) = f(z)$  for  $z \neq \infty$ . By

the elliptic case,  $\hat{f}(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$ . But then  $c=0$  (if  $c \neq 0$  then we would

have  $\hat{f}(-d/c) = \infty$  and  $\hat{f}(\infty) = \infty$ ). So  $f(z) = \frac{a}{d}z + \frac{b}{d}$ . □

- We now have to look for the subgroups of  $\text{Aut}_{\text{hol}} \mathbb{C}$  whose action on  $\mathbb{C}$  is prop. disc. The answer is given by the following

Proposition. Any subgroup  $G \subset \text{Aut}_{\text{hol}}(\mathbb{C})$  of properly discontinuous biholomorphisms is of one of the following types:

1)  $G = 0$ ,

2)  $G \cong \mathbb{Z}$  generated by a translation w.r.t a non zero vector

3)  $G \cong \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$  generated by two translations w.r.t two  $\mathbb{R}$ -lin. indep. vectors.

Pf. Any affine transformation  $f(z) = az + b$  w/  $a \neq 1$  has fixed points (namely  $z = \frac{b}{1-a}$ ), so for  $G$  to act prop disc. it must be formed by translations,  $f(z) = z + b$  (and in particular  $G$  is abelian). Representing each translation by its associated vector in  $\mathbb{C}$ , we can view  $G$  as a discrete subgroup of  $\mathbb{C}$  (discrete as otherwise it wouldn't act prop disc). We conclude by the following

Claim: Every discrete additive subgroup of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is of the form

$$L = \mathbb{Z}v_1 + \dots + \mathbb{Z}v_r$$

for some l.i. vectors  $v_1, \dots, v_r$ ;  $r \leq n$ .

Pf of the claim: We can assume that the  $\mathbb{R}$ -lin subspace generated by  $L$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is  $n$ -dim (otherwise  $L \subset \mathbb{R}^r$  for  $r < n$  and the claim would follow for  $n=r$ ).

Let  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  be an l.i. vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and let  $L' \subset L$  be the free ab gp generated by the  $e_i$ 's. Now  $L$  is discrete and closed in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , so  $L/L' \subset \mathbb{R}^n/L'$ .

is discrete and closed as well, so finite as

$$\mathbb{R}^n / L' = \prod \mathbb{R} e_i / \mathbb{Z} e_i = S^1 \times \dots \times S^1$$

is compact, i.e.  $L/L'$  is a finite group. Besides  $L$  is finite-generated as so is  $L'$  and  $L/L'$ ; and  $L$  is also torsion-free as it is a subgroup of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

Therefore  $L$  is free and finite-generated, and since  $L/L'$  is a torsion group (because it is finite),  $\text{rank } L = \text{rank } L'$ . □

• The upshot is that, according to the proposition, we have the following parabolic Riemann surfaces:

1) The plane  $\mathbb{C} = \mathbb{C}/0$ ,

2) The cylinders  $\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z}\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in \mathbb{C}^*$ . The key observation here is that

two subgroups  $\mathbb{Z}\alpha, \mathbb{Z}\beta \subset \mathbb{C}$  are conjugated in  $\text{Aut}_{\text{hol}} \mathbb{C}$  by a dilatation  $z \mapsto \frac{\alpha}{\beta} z$ , and therefore all cylinders are biholomorphic to each other ("every cylinder has a unique complex structure").

By the way, a cylinder is biholomorphic to the punctured plane  $\mathbb{C}^* = \mathbb{C} - 0$ .

3) The tori  $\mathbb{Z}\alpha \oplus \mathbb{Z}\beta$ ,  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ -li.

The first thing we note is that any such torus is conjugated to one

of the form  $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau$  w/  $\text{Im } \tau > 0$ . For if  $\text{Im}(\frac{\beta}{\alpha}) > 0$  then take  $\tau := \beta/\alpha$

and conjugate by the dilatation  $z \mapsto \alpha z$ . Else take  $\tau := -\beta/\alpha$  and

conjugate w/ the dilation  $z \mapsto -\alpha z$ . That is, every complex torus is biholomorphic to  $\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau$  w/  $\tau \in \mathbb{H}$ . Now the question we want to answer is when two complex tori are biholomorphic, ie when two such subgroups  $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau, \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau'$  are conjugated in  $\text{Aut}_{\text{hol}}(\mathbb{C})$ .

• Recall that  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z}) := \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} u_1 & u_2 \\ u_3 & u_4 \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{Z}) : \det = +1 \right\}$ , and

note that  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  acts on  $\mathbb{H}$  as follows: for  $A = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 & u_2 \\ u_3 & u_4 \end{pmatrix} \in SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ ,

$$A: \mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$$

$$\tau \mapsto \frac{u_1\tau + u_2}{u_3\tau + u_4}$$

which is well-def as  $\text{Im}(A\tau) = \frac{(\det A) \cdot \text{Im} \tau}{|u_3\tau + u_4|^2} > 0$ .

Theorem: Two complex tori  $\mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau, \mathbb{C}/\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau'$  are biholomorphic

if and only if there exists  $A \in SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  st  $\tau' = A\tau$ .

Pf. It is easy to see that two subgroups  $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau, \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau'$  are conjugated

(in  $\text{Aut}_{\text{hol}}(\mathbb{C})$ ) if and only if  $\exists \lambda \in \mathbb{C}^*$  st

$$\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau = \lambda \cdot (\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau') \subset \mathbb{C}.$$

ie  $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau = \mathbb{Z}\lambda \oplus \mathbb{Z}\lambda\tau'$ . This means that  $\lambda, \lambda\tau'$  can be expressed

in the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis  $(1, \tau)$ , ie

there exist  $m_i \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $i=1, \dots, 4$  st

$$\begin{cases} \lambda = m_4 + m_3 \tau \\ \lambda \tau' = m_2 + m_1 \tau \end{cases}$$

ie  $\tau'$  must be of the form  $\tau' = \frac{m_1 \tau + m_2}{m_3 \tau + m_4}$ . Furthermore

$(\lambda, \lambda \tau')$  is a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -basis of  $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \tau$ , so they must be l.i., ie

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} m_1 & m_2 \\ m_3 & m_4 \end{pmatrix} = \pm 1 \in \mathbb{Z}^*$$

and in fact we must have  $\det(\ ) = +1$  as  $\tau' \in \mathbb{H}$ . So  $\tau' = A\tau$

for  $A \in SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$  as required. □

Corollary. The set of biholomorphism classes of complex tori is in bijection with

$$\mathbb{H} / SL_2(\mathbb{Z}) \left( \begin{array}{c} \cong \\ j\text{-function} \end{array} \right) \mathbb{C}$$

and it is denoted  $\mathcal{M}_1$  the moduli space of the torus.

• What we have here is a totally different situation to top surfaces. Now we have a continuum of non-biholomorphic complex structures on the torus, parametrised by  $\mathcal{M}_1$ .



## § 5. Hyperbolic case

- Essentially we have already seen that a Riemann surface is hyperbolic if and only if it is not biholomorphic to  $\mathbb{C}_\infty$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}^*$  or a torus. We briefly describe the situation now:

Proposition. The biholomorphisms  $\mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}$  are precisely the linear fractional transformations

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

That is,

$$\text{Aut}_{\text{hol}}(\mathbb{H}) \cong \text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R}) := \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{R}) / \pm I$$

$\uparrow$  projective special linear group

Definition. A subgroup  $G \subset \text{Aut}_{\text{hol}}(\mathbb{H})$  whose action is properly discontinuous is called a Fuchsian group. In the hyperbolic case, this is equivalent to requiring that  $G$  is a discrete subgroup of  $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$ .

- In this case giving a list is difficult for two reasons: one is that there are many conj classes of Fuchsian groups; and the other is the difficulty to express the underlying top surface if it is non-compact. Hence in this case we will content ourselves giving a finite list of examples.

Before we show

Theorem (Little Picard). Every holomorphic function  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  non constant omits at most one value.

Pf. If such function omits two, say  $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C} - \{p, q\}$ , then as  $\mathbb{C} - \{p, q\}$  is hyperbolic  $f$  lifts to its universal cover  $\hat{D}^2$ ,  $\hat{f}: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \hat{D}^2$  holomorphic, which must be constant by the Liouville theorem, so  $f$  is constant.  $\square$

Examples. 1) Every closed surface of genus  $g \geq 2$  is hyperbolic. In particular

$$\Sigma_g \cong \mathbb{H}/\Gamma \quad \text{where} \quad \Gamma \cong \pi_1(\Sigma_g) \cong \langle a_1, b_1, \dots, a_g, b_g \mid [a_1, b_1] \dots [a_g, b_g] = 1 \rangle.$$

2)  $\hat{D}^2 - 0$

3) More generally, if  $X \subset \mathbb{C}$  is a domain (non-empty, connected open subset) such that  $\mathbb{C} - X$  has more than 2 pts, then  $X$  is hyperbolic: for it cannot be elliptic as it is non-compact; and it cannot be parabolic because otherwise its universal cover  $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow X$  would contradict the Little Picard theorem.

4) Put  $A(r, R) := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : r < |z| < R\}$  for the annuli.

Two annuli  $A(r, R)$ ,  $A(r', R')$  are biholomorphic if and only if

$$R/r = R'/r'.$$

## § 6. Teichmüller spaces and the moduli spaces $\mathcal{M}_g$

• For the case of the torus, we saw that the space parametrising biholom. classes of complex str. was  $\mathcal{M}_1 := \mathbb{H} / SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$ . I would like to generalise this to higher genus (for closed Riemann surfaces).

Definition. The Teichmüller space is the set (actually top space)

$$\mathcal{T}_g := \frac{\{ \text{pairs } (X, \phi) : X \text{ Riemann surf} \ \& \ \phi : \Sigma_g \xrightarrow{\cong} X \text{ orient. pres. homeo} \}}{(X, \phi) \sim (X', \phi') \text{ if } \exists F : X \xrightarrow{\cong} X' \text{ biholo st } \phi \circ \phi'^{-1} \text{ homotopic to } F.}$$

• For the torus, there is a bijection

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{H}_1 &\xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{T}_1 \\ \tau &\longmapsto \mathbb{C} / \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau \end{aligned}$$

w/ marking

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\mathbb{R} \oplus \mathbb{R}}{\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}} &\xrightarrow{\cong} \frac{\mathbb{C}}{\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}\tau} \\ (x, y) &\longmapsto x + y \cdot \tau \end{aligned}$$

Definition. Let  $g \geq 1$ . The moduli space of the closed genus  $g$  surface is the set  $\mathcal{M}_g$  of biholomorphism classes of Riemann surf str on  $\Sigma_g$ .

Proposition. There is a natural map

$$\mathcal{T}_g \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_g$$

forgetting the marking inducing a bijection

$$\mathcal{T}_g / \text{Mod}(\Sigma_g) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{M}_g$$

where  $\text{Mod}(\Sigma_g) := \pi_0 \text{Homeo}^+(\Sigma_g)$  is the mapping class group of  $\Sigma_g$

• For the torus case,

$$\text{Mod}(\mathbb{T}_1) \cong \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$$

$$f \longmapsto \left( f_* : \pi_1(\mathbb{T}_1) = \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z} = \pi_1(\Sigma_1) \right)$$

• In general, the situation is that  $\mathcal{T}_g \cong \mathbb{R}^{6g-6}$  (Riemann was aware that the different complex structures on  $\Sigma_g$  depended on  $6g-6$  parameters), and  $\mathcal{M}_g \cong \mathbb{R}^{6g-6} / \text{Mod}(\Sigma_g)$  but this space is not a manifold (rather an orbifold from the geometric perspective). From the algebraic perspective, the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}_g$  itself is an algebraic object called an "algebraic variety".

## § 7. Connection with Riemannian geometry

There is a similar, closely related story for Riemannian structures on a smooth surface. Namely, each of the simply-connected (Riemann) surfaces  $\mathbb{C}_\infty = S^2$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathbb{H}$  admits a Riemannian metric w/ constant Gaussian curvature equals to  $+1$ ,  $0$  and  $-1$ , respectively. The groups of automorphisms acting prop. disc. happen to act via isometries,

so that the quotients  $M/G$  still carry a Riemannian metric w/ the same curvature. Therefore we obtain the following classification of Riemannian 2-manifolds:

ELLIPTIC

curvature  $+1$

PARABOLIC

curvature  $= 0$

HYPERBOLIC

curvature  $-1$

- We see how the theory of complex analysis, algebraic topology and Riemannian geometry merge into this topic. Beautiful!

