

1 Chabauty space of $\mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$

Let $G = \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{R})$. The group G acts on \mathbb{H}^2 by fractional linear transformation on upper half plane. An elementary subgroup of G is a subgroup of G that has a finite orbit in $\mathbb{H}^2 \cup \partial\mathbb{H}^2$.

Let the set A be a finite orbit of an elementary subgroup $H \leq G$. First we can think about where the set A is and what element H can have. If H contains an element that is parabolic or hyperbolic, then A cannot contain any element in \mathbb{H}^2 . Otherwise the parabolic or hyperbolic isometry will create an infinite orbit. So in the case where A is contained in \mathbb{H}^2 , we know that H can only have elliptic elements. The following fact is from [Katok], where it is proved algebraically.

Fact 1. *If H contains only elliptic elements, then it has a fixed point in \mathbb{H}^2 .*

The fact above tells us that if elementary subgroup H only has elliptical elements, then every element fixes the same point. In other words, all the elements are some rotation around that fixed point.

We want to argue that if $h \in H$ is parabolic or hyperbolic, then h also creates an infinite orbit of any $\xi \in \partial\mathbb{H}^2$ that is not a fixed point of h . For example, in upper half plane model, if h is the map $z \mapsto \lambda z$, it is a hyperbolic isometry leaving the imaginary axis invariant. Any other hyperbolic isometry is a conjugation of h . The map h has two fixed points 0 and ∞ , for any nonzero ξ on the real line, the orbit is $\{\lambda^n \xi : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$. Similarly if h is the map $z \mapsto z + 1$, then h fixes ∞ , and any $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$ has infinite orbit $\{\xi + n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ under h . Any other parabolic map is a conjugation to h .

Knowing how different types of isometry determines what elements A can have, we can begin to classify all the closed elementary subgroup $H \leq G$. The following result is from [BLL21].

Theorem 1.1. *The closed, elementary subgroups of G are as follows.*

1. *The trivial group.*
2. *The group $K(p)$ of all elliptic isometries fixing some $p \in \mathbb{H}^2$, and the finite cyclic subgroup $k(p, 2\pi/n)$ generated by a $2\pi/n$ -rotation around $p \in \mathbb{H}^2$.*
3. *The group $N(\xi)$ of all parabolic isometries fixing some $\xi \in \partial\mathbb{H}^2$.*
4. *The group $A(\alpha)$ of all hyperbolic type isometries that translate along geodesic $\alpha \subseteq \mathbb{H}^2$, and its infinite cyclic subgroup $a(\alpha, t)$ consisting of translations by multiple of $t \in \mathbb{R}$.*
5. *fill in later! kfc first*

Question pool: In 3, why is there no discrete group?