

Chapter 1 The Möbius transformations

* The Alexandroff extension theorem.

Let (X, τ) be a topological space:

$\tau \equiv$ collection of subsets of X :

- (i) $\emptyset, X \in \tau$
- (ii) $\{X_i : i \in I\} \in \tau \Rightarrow \bigcup_{i \in I} X_i \in \tau$.
- (iii) $\{X_i : i=1, \dots, N\} \in \tau \Rightarrow \bigcap_{i=1}^N X_i \in \tau$

The elements of τ are called open sets and $\tau \equiv$ topology on X .

Example - Given a metric space, (X, d)

$$\tau = \{D(a, r) : a \in X, r > 0\},$$

$$D(a, r) = \{x \in X : d(a, x) < r\}.$$

So... let (X, τ) be a topological space.

The Alexandroff extension of X is certain compact space X^* together with an open embedding $\varphi: X \rightarrow X^*$ such that the complement of X in X^* consists of a single point, denoted by ∞ .

the map φ is a Hausdorff compactification $\Leftrightarrow X$ is locally compact, non-compact, and Hausdorff.

• Open map: \forall open set $U \subset X$, $\varphi(U)$ is open in X^* .

• Embedding: $\varphi: X \rightarrow \varphi(X)$ homeomorphism.
(\equiv injective & continuous)

• (X, \mathcal{Z}) is Hausdorff: $\forall x_1, x_2 \in X, x_1 \neq x_2$,
 $\exists X_1, X_2 \in \mathcal{Z}: X_1 \cap X_2 = \emptyset, x_1 \in X_1, x_2 \in X_2$.

• (X, \mathcal{Z}) is compact: Each of its open covers has a finite subcover \equiv

if $X = \bigcup_{i \in I} X_i$, then, $\exists \{i_1, \dots, i_n\} \subset I$:

$$X = \bigcup_{j=1}^n X_{i_j}$$

• Locally compact if every point has a compact neighborhood.

"Our example"

Consider the topological space $(\mathbb{C}, \tau_{1,1}) = \mathbb{C}$.

$1,1 =$ Euclidean distance

It is clear that \mathbb{C} is not compact.

(Use $X_n = D(0, n), n \in \mathbb{N}$)

Take a point $\infty \notin \mathbb{C}$ and define

$\hat{\mathbb{C}} = \mathbb{C} \cup \{\infty\}$ and $\tau_\infty = \tau_{1,1} \cup \Theta_\infty$, where

$$\Theta_\infty = \{ \hat{\mathbb{C}} \setminus K : K \text{ is compact in } \mathbb{C} \}$$

(\equiv family of neighborhoods of ∞).

$$\text{Id} = \varphi : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \hat{\mathbb{C}} ?$$

then:

$\rightarrow \tau_\infty$ is a topology in $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$

$\rightarrow (\mathbb{C}, \tau_{1,1})$ is a dense subspace of $(\hat{\mathbb{C}}, \tau_\infty)$

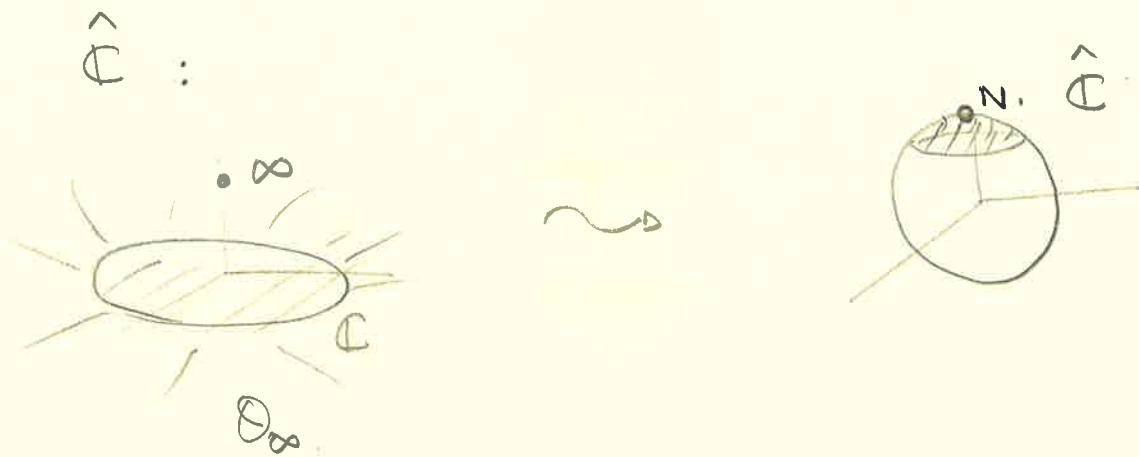
$\rightarrow (\hat{\mathbb{C}}, \tau_\infty)$ is compact:

$$\hat{\mathbb{C}} = \bigcup_{i \in I} X_i \quad \text{since } \infty \in \hat{\mathbb{C}}, \exists i_0 \in I : \infty \in X_{i_0}.$$

$$\equiv \exists K_0, \text{ compact in } \mathbb{C} : X_{i_0} = \hat{\mathbb{C}} \setminus K_0.$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\mathbb{C}} = \left(\bigcup_{i \in I \setminus i_0} X_i \right) \cup G_{i_0}.$$

But $K_0 \subset \bigcup_{i \in I \setminus i_0} X_i$ & K_0 compact in \mathbb{C} !
 \square

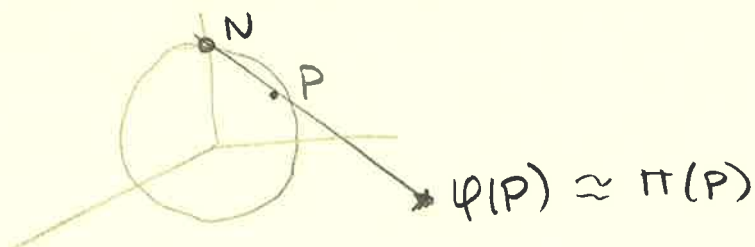


Remark - There is no metric on $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$ which equals the extension of d_e on \mathbb{C}

(Sup) $\rho: \hat{\mathbb{C}} \times \hat{\mathbb{C}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a metric on $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$ with $\rho(z, w) = |z - w| \quad \forall z, w \in \mathbb{C}$.

Then,
$$\underbrace{\infty}_{\substack{\downarrow n \rightarrow \infty \\ \infty}} = \rho(\infty, 0) \leq \underbrace{\rho(\infty, \infty)}_{\substack{\downarrow n \rightarrow \infty \\ 0}} + \rho(\infty, 0) \quad \rightarrow \leftarrow$$

The homeomorphism φ is given by the stereographic projection: to each point P of the sphere $\{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1\}$, there corresponds the complex number $x + iy$, where $(x, y, 0)$ is the intersection of the line that joints P and $N = (0, 0, 1)$ with the (x, y) -plane



Theorem $\pi: S^2 \rightarrow \hat{\mathbb{C}}$ is a homeomorphism

given by:

$$\pi(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \begin{cases} \frac{x_1 + ix_2}{1 - x_3}, & x_3 \neq 1 \\ \infty, & x_3 = 1 \end{cases}$$

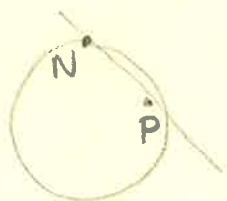
Moreover,

$$\pi^{-1}(z) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{2\operatorname{Re}z}{1+|z|^2}, \frac{2\operatorname{Im}z}{1+|z|^2}, \frac{|z|^2-1}{1+|z|^2} \right), & z = x+iy \in \mathbb{C} \\ (0, 0, 1), & z = \infty \end{cases}$$

PF - Let $P = (x_1, x_2, x_3) \in S^2$.

$$x_3 = 0 \rightsquigarrow \pi(P) = (x_1, x_2, 0) \sim x_1 + ix_2.$$

$x_3 \neq 0$. the line PN is given by:



$$\begin{cases} c_1 = t \cdot 0 + (1-t)x_1 \\ c_2 = t \cdot 0 + (1-t)x_2 \\ c_3 = t \cdot 1 + (1-t)x_3 \end{cases}$$

$$\equiv \{(1-t)x_1, (1-t)x_2, t + (1-t)x_3 : t \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

the intersection with $\{z=0\}$ occurs when

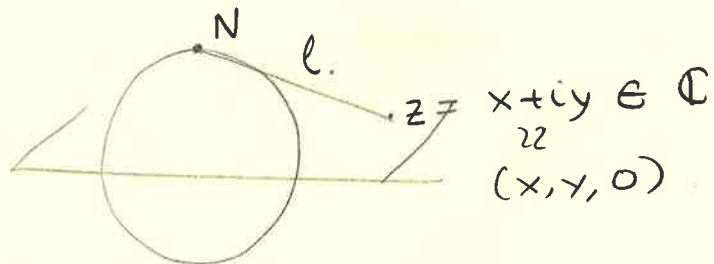
$$t + (1-t)x_3 = 0$$

$$\equiv (1-x_3)t = -x_3 \equiv t = \frac{-x_3}{1-x_3}.$$

so that $1-t = \frac{1}{1-x_3}$ and, hence,

$$\pi(P) = \frac{x_1 + ix_2}{1-x_3}$$

π^{-1} :



$$l \equiv \{((1-t)x, (1-t)y, t) : t \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

$$l \cap S^2: \quad (1-t)^2 x^2 + (1-t)^2 y^2 + t^2 = 1$$

$$\equiv t^2 (x^2 + y^2 + 1) - 2t(x^2 + y^2) + x^2 + y^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$\equiv (1 + |z|^2) t^2 - 2t|z|^2 + |z|^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$\equiv t = \frac{2|z|^2 \pm \sqrt{4|z|^4 + 4(1-|z|^4)}}{2(1+|z|^2)}$$

$$= \frac{|z|^2 \pm 1}{1 + |z|^2} = \begin{cases} 1 & \rightarrow N!!!! \\ \frac{|z|^2 - 1}{1 + |z|^2} \end{cases}$$

Prove the continuity of π & π^{-1}
and check that $\pi(\pi^{-1}(z)) = z$ & $\pi^{-1}(\pi(P)) = P$

A nice property:

DEF. - A circle on S^2 is the intersection of S^2 with a plane.

Let C be a circle on S^2 .

$$\equiv C = \{ (x_1, x_2, x_3) \in S^2 : ax + bx_2 + cx_3 = d \}$$

$\pi(C)$?

* $(0,0,1) \notin C$

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3) \sim \left(\frac{2\operatorname{Re}z}{1+|z|^2}, \frac{2\operatorname{Im}z}{1+|z|^2}, \frac{|z|^2-1}{1+|z|^2} \right)$$

$$\leadsto a \left(\frac{z+\bar{z}}{1+|z|^2} \right) + b \left(\frac{z-\bar{z}}{i(1+|z|^2)} \right) + c \left(\frac{|z|^2-1}{1+|z|^2} \right) = d$$

$$\equiv 2ax + 2by + c(x^2 + y^2 - 1) = d(x^2 + y^2 + 1)$$

$$\equiv (c-d)x^2 + (c-d)y^2 + 2ax + 2by - (c+d) = 0$$

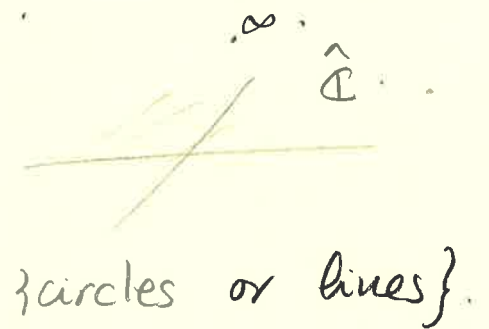
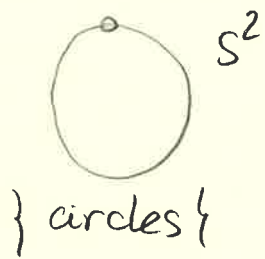
* $c=d \Rightarrow (0,0,1) \in C \rightarrow$ later.

$$\begin{aligned} * c \neq d &\Rightarrow \left(x + \frac{a}{c-d} \right)^2 + \left(y + \frac{b}{c-d} \right)^2 - \frac{a^2}{(c-d)^2} - \frac{b^2}{(c-d)^2} \\ &\quad - \frac{c+d}{c-d} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

$$\equiv \left(x + \frac{a}{c-d}\right)^2 + \left(y + \frac{b}{c-d}\right)^2 = \frac{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 - d^2}{(c-d)^2} \dots$$

If $(0,0,1) \in \mathcal{C} \Rightarrow (\neq \text{too}) \quad c=d.$

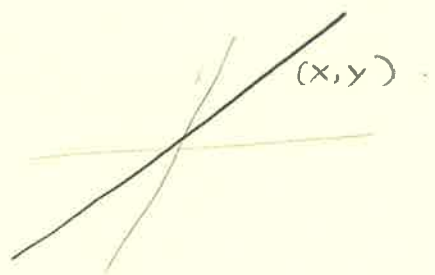
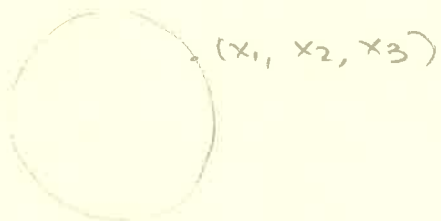
$\Rightarrow ax+by=c \equiv$ a line.



Reciprocally:

A line in the plane is given by

$$ax+by=c.$$



$$a\left(\frac{x_1}{1-x_3}\right) + b\left(\frac{x_2}{1-x_3}\right) = c.$$

$$\equiv ax_1 + bx_2 + cx_3 = c \equiv \text{plane!}$$

Moreover, $(0,0,1)$ satisfies this equation.

Circles ?

$$|z-a|=r \equiv |z-a|^2=r^2$$

$$(z-a)\overline{(z-a)}=r^2 \equiv |z|^2 - a\bar{z} - \bar{a}z + |a|^2=r^2$$

$$\equiv x^2+y^2 - 2\operatorname{Re}\{a\bar{z}\} = r^2 - |a|^2.$$

$$\equiv x^2+y^2 - 2(a_1x + a_2y) = r^2 - |a|^2.$$

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3) \longmapsto (x, y) = x+iy = \frac{x_1}{1-x_3} + i \frac{x_2}{1-x_3}.$$

$$x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 = 1.$$

$$\frac{x_1^2}{(1-x_3)^2} + \frac{x_2^2}{(1-x_3)^2} - 2a_1 \cdot \frac{x_1}{1-x_3} - 2a_2 \frac{x_2}{1-x_3} = r^2 - |a|^2$$

$$\equiv \frac{1+x_3}{1-x_3} - \frac{2a_1x_1 + 2a_2x_2}{1-x_3} = r^2 - |a|^2$$

$$\equiv Ax_1 + Bx_2 + Cx_3 = D.$$

In other words, π (and π^{-1}) preserve the family of {circles & lines}.

Möbius transformations.

DEF. - A Möbius (or linear fractional) transformation is a function of the form

$$T(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}, \quad a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{C}.$$

Note that $c=d=0$ does not make sense!

Also that

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

and

$$\frac{az+b}{d} = \frac{b}{d} + \frac{adz}{d^2}.$$

that is, if $ad-bc=0$, T is constant.

Moreover, T is non-constant $\stackrel{\textcircled{1}}{\iff} ad-bc \neq 0$
 $\stackrel{\textcircled{2}}{\iff} T$ is one-to-one.

Pf. - $\textcircled{1}$ $T'(z) = \frac{ad-bc}{(cz+d)^2}$. This proves $\textcircled{1} \implies \textcircled{2}$.

To show \implies , it suffices to note that the assertion is equivalent to $ad-bc=0 \implies T$ constant, which was proved above.

$$\textcircled{2} \quad T(z) = T(w) \iff \frac{az+b}{cz+d} = \frac{aw+b}{cw+d}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow aczw + adz + bcw + \cancel{bd} = aczw + adw + bcz + \cancel{bd}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow (ad - bc)(z - w) = 0 \Rightarrow \text{We have } \textcircled{2}.$$

Some more properties; but first let's agree with the notation

$$\mathcal{M} = \left\{ T(z) = \frac{az + b}{cz + d} : ad - bc \neq 0 \right\}.$$

Now, for $T \in \mathcal{M}$, it is clear that

$$T: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \hat{\mathbb{C}} \\ \left(T\left(\frac{-d}{c}\right) = \infty, c \neq 0 \right)$$

but we can extend

$$T: \hat{\mathbb{C}} \rightarrow \hat{\mathbb{C}}.$$

$$\text{by defining } T(\infty) = \begin{cases} \infty, & c = 0 \\ \frac{a}{c}, & c \neq 0. \end{cases}$$

thus, every $T \in \mathcal{M}$ defines a function (which is necessarily one-to-one) in $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$.

$$\text{But since } T^{-1}(z) = \frac{dz + b}{a - cz} \in \mathcal{M},$$

we have that any $T \in \mathcal{M}$ is a bijection on $\hat{\mathbb{C}} \sim S^2$.

It is obvious that if $T, S \in M$, then $T^{-1}, S \circ T \in M$.

Moreover, $\text{Id}(z) = z \in M$.

Hence,

Lemma (M, \circ) is a group.
 \uparrow
composition

though it is not commutative, as the following example shows.

Example

$$T_1(z) = \frac{z}{z+1}, \quad T_2(z) = \frac{z+1}{z+2}.$$

$$\text{then, } T_1 \circ T_2(z) = \frac{z+1}{2z}, \quad T_2 \circ T_1(z) = -2z-1.$$

Among all TEM, let us consider the following groups of (sometimes called simple) Möbius transformations:

- Translations: $z \mapsto z + b, b \neq 0$.
- Rotations: $z \mapsto az, |a| = 1$.
- Homotheties: $z \mapsto rz, r \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$.
- Inversions: $z \mapsto 1/z$.

Theorem - Every TEM is the composition of simple Möbius transformations as above.

Pf. - CASE 1. $c = 0$:

$$T(z) = \frac{az + b}{d} = \frac{a}{d}z + \frac{b}{d} = \underbrace{\left| \frac{a}{d} \right|}_{\text{Homothety}} e^{i \text{Arg} \frac{a}{d}} \underbrace{z}_{\text{rotation}} + \underbrace{\frac{b}{d}}_{\text{translation}}$$

CASE 2. $c \neq 0$.

Define $f_1(z) = z + \frac{d}{c}, f_2(z) = \frac{1}{z}, f_3(z) = \frac{bc - ad}{c^2}z,$
 $f_4(z) = z + \frac{a}{c}.$

then $f_4 \circ f_3 \circ f_2 \circ f_1(z) = \frac{az + b}{cz + d} \quad \square$

Remark - theorem 1.2 in [I. Laine, C.A. III] says

that any TEM preserves the family $\mathcal{F} = \{ \text{circles or lines in } \mathbb{C} \} = \{ \text{circles in } \hat{\mathbb{C}} \}.$

We will prove this theorem using a different approach related to the cross-ratio.

First, let's prove the following lemma:

Lemma.- Given 3 distinct points $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \hat{\mathbb{C}}$, $\exists!$ $T \in \mathcal{M}$: $T(z_1) = 1$, $T(z_2) = 0$, $T(z_3) = \infty$.

Pf. EXISTENCE.

If $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{C}$, $T(z) = \frac{z-z_2}{z-z_3} \cdot \frac{z_1-z_2}{z_1-z_3}$ satisfies

$$T(z_1) = 1, T(z_2) = 0, T(z_3) = \infty.$$

If some $z_i = \infty$, just take limits in the previous expression:

$$T(z) = \frac{z-z_2}{z-z_3}, z_1 = \infty, \quad T(z) = \frac{z_1-z_3}{z-z_3}, z_2 = \infty$$

$$\& T(z) = \frac{z-z_2}{z_1-z_2}, z_3 = \infty.$$

UNIQUENESS. Assume that T and S satisfy the hypotheses. Define $M = S^{-1} \circ T$.

Then, $M \in \mathcal{M}$ and $M(z_i) = z_i$, $i=1, 2, 3$.

That is, M has 3 fixed points in $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$.

But how many fixed points a Möbius transformation can have in $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$?

Let's see... we are to solve $M(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d} = z$.

CASE 1: $c=0$ In these cases, ∞ is a fixed point!

$$az+b=z \Leftrightarrow (a-1)z+b=0.$$

this gives different possibilities.

$\rightarrow (a,b)=(1,0)$ (i.e., $M=Id$), all points in $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$ are fixed.

$\rightarrow a \neq 1 \rightarrow z = \frac{-b}{a-1}$, $\rightarrow a=1, b \neq 0 \rightarrow$ no fixed points in \mathbb{C}

that is, $c=0 \Rightarrow$

- $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} M=Id \\ 2 \text{ points } (a \neq 1) \text{ are fixed} \\ 1 \text{ point } (a=1, b \neq 0) \text{ is fixed.} \end{array} \right.$

$$\boxed{c \neq 0} \quad \frac{az+b}{cz+d} = z \Leftrightarrow cz^2 + (d-a)z - b = 0.$$

$$z = \frac{a-d \pm \sqrt{(d-a)^2 + 4bc}}{2c}$$

\therefore 2 fixed points, at most.

that is, $M \in \mathcal{M}$ fixes 3 points $\Rightarrow M=Id$.

this ends the proof of the lemma. \square

The cross-ratio.

DEF. - the cross-ratio of 4 distinct points z_0, z_1, z_2, z_3 is the value of $S(z_0)$, where

S is the Möbius transformation satisfying

$$S(z_1) = 1, S(z_2) = 0, S(z_3) = \infty. \text{ Notation: } (z_0, z_1, z_2, z_3)$$

So that (see p. 14), if $z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathbb{C}$,

$$(z_0, z_1, z_2, z_3) = \frac{z_0 - z_2}{z_0 - z_3} : \frac{z_1 - z_2}{z_1 - z_3}.$$

Theorem. - If $T \in M$,

$$(T(z_0), T(z_1), T(z_2), T(z_3)) = (z_0, z_1, z_2, z_3).$$

Pf. - Let S be the Möbius transformation defined by $S(z_1) = 1, S(z_2) = 0, S(z_3) = \infty$.

And let $M = S \circ T^{-1}$.

$$\text{Note that } M(T(z_1)) = S(z_1) = 1$$

$$M(T(z_2)) = 0$$

$$M(T(z_3)) = \infty.$$

$$\text{Hence, } (T(z_0), T(z_1), T(z_2), T(z_3)) = M(T(z_0))$$

$$= S \circ T^{-1}(T(z_0)) = S(z_0) = (z_0, z_1, z_2, z_3)$$

□.

Another nice result is

Theorem - Let $\mathcal{F} = \{ \text{circles in } \hat{\mathbb{C}} \}$
 $= \{ \text{circles and lines in } \mathbb{C} \}$ and let T
be a Möbius transformation. Then $T(\mathcal{F}) \subset \mathcal{F}$.

The proof of this theorem is based on
the following lemma.

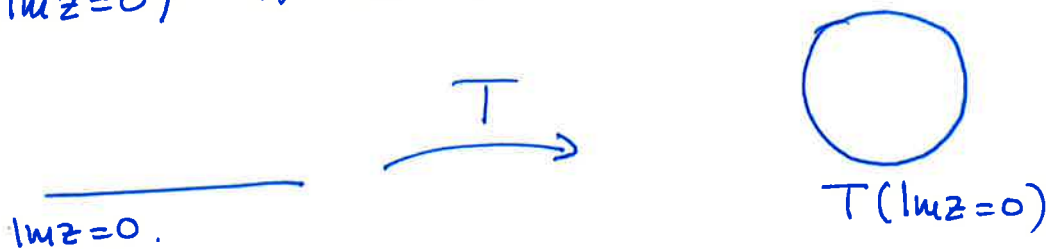
Lemma - the cross ratio (z_0, z_1, z_2, z_3) is real
if and only if the four points lie on a
circle or on a straight line.

pf (Lemma)

It is clear that if z_0, z_1, z_2, z_3 lie on
the straight line $\{ \operatorname{Im} z = 0 \}$, so that the
four points are real, then

$$(z_0, z_1, z_2, z_3) = \frac{z_0 - z_2}{z_0 - z_3} : \frac{z_1 - z_2}{z_1 - z_3} \in \mathbb{R}.$$

We now prove that for any $T \in M$,
 $T(\operatorname{Im} z = 0)$ is either a circle or a line.



Since the cross ratio is invariant under Möbius transf. we have

$$(T(z_0), T(z_1), T(z_2), T(z_3)) \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Hence $\overline{(T(z_0), T(z_1), T(z_2), T(z_3))} = (T(z_0), T(z_1), T(z_2), T(z_3))$

$$\equiv \overline{\frac{aw+b}{cw+d}} = \frac{aw+b}{cw+d} \quad (\text{Remember that the cross-ratio is a Möbius map!})$$

$$\equiv (a\bar{c} - c\bar{a})|w|^2 + (a\bar{d} - c\bar{b})w + (b\bar{c} - d\bar{a})\bar{w} + b\bar{d} - \bar{b}d = 0. \quad (*)$$

• $a\bar{c} = c\bar{a}$. Then, $a\bar{d} - c\bar{b} \neq 0$. (Otherwise, we would have $ad - bc = 0 \rightarrow \leftarrow$. The proof would go as follows.

CASE 1. $c=0 \Rightarrow$ (for $w \neq 0$), $ad \neq 0$. Hence $a\bar{d} \neq 0$.

CASE 2. $c \neq 0 \Rightarrow a = \frac{c}{\bar{c}} \bar{a}$. So that if

$$a\bar{d} - \bar{b}c = 0, \quad \frac{c}{\bar{c}} \bar{a} \bar{d} - \bar{b}c = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{a} \bar{d} - \bar{b} \bar{c} = 0 \quad \leftarrow$$

Hence, we have from $(*)$.

$$Aw - \overline{Aw} = B, \quad A = \begin{matrix} a\bar{d} - c\bar{b} \\ = a_1 + ia_2 \end{matrix}, \quad B = \begin{matrix} \bar{b}d - b\bar{d} \\ = b_1 + ib_2 = ib_2!! \end{matrix}$$

$$\equiv 2i \operatorname{Im}\{Aw\} = B, \text{ which is, for } w = x + iy$$

$$\equiv 2i \cdot (a_1 x - a_2 y) = ib_2 \equiv a_1 x - a_2 y = \frac{b_2}{2} \rightarrow \text{line!}$$

If $a\bar{c} - c\bar{a} \neq 0$, we divide $\textcircled{*}$ by this number and complete the square to get

$$\left| w + \frac{\bar{a}d - \bar{c}b}{\bar{a}c - \bar{c}a} \right| = \left| \frac{ad - bc}{\bar{a}c - \bar{c}a} \right| \rightarrow \text{circle.}$$

this shows that if $(z_0, z_1, z_2, z_3) \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow (z_0, z_1, z_2, z_3)$ lie on a straight line or a circle. To show that the reciprocal also works, notice the following:

Given any line $L = z = w_0 + re^{it}$, $r \in \mathbb{R}$, the Möbius transformation $T(z) = e^{-it}(z - w_0)$ maps that line onto $\{\operatorname{Im} z\} = 0$.

Given any circle $C: z = w_0 + Re^{it}$, $t \in [0, 2\pi]$, $T_1(z) = \frac{z - z_0}{R} : C \rightarrow \partial D$. and if we define $T_2(z) = i \frac{1+z}{1-z}$, the composition $T_2 \circ T_1$ maps C onto $\{\operatorname{Im} z\} = 0$.

So that given 4 points in either L or C , z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4 , we have

$$(z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4) = \underbrace{(Tz_1, Tz_2, Tz_3, Tz_4)}_{\text{the points are real!}} \in \mathbb{R}. \quad \square$$

Now it's trivial ~~to~~ prove the theorem stated on p. 17.

Pf. - Let \mathcal{C} be a circle in $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$ and $z_0, z_1, z_2, z_3 \in \mathcal{C}$.

Then $(z_0, z_1, z_2, z_3) \in \mathbb{R}$ and hence so does $(Tz_0, Tz_1, Tz_2, Tz_3) \forall T \in \mathcal{M} \Rightarrow Tz_0, Tz_1, Tz_2, Tz_3$ belong to a circle as well. \square .

3 Remarks before classifying Möbius transformations.

① Recall that any matrix $M \in \mathcal{U}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{C})$ gives rise to the linear transformation

$$T_M(z_1, z_2) = M \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ in } \mathbb{C}^2.$$

And that any linear transf. in \mathbb{C}^2 is identified with a matrix $M \in \mathcal{U}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{C})$.

Moreover, the transformation $T: \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$ is an isomorphism (= linear & bijective) iff the associated matrix has non-zero determinant.

It is usual to denote by

$$\begin{aligned} GL(2, \mathbb{C}) &= \text{linear general group in } \mathbb{C}^2 \\ &= \{\text{automorphisms of } \mathbb{C}^2\} \approx \{M \in \mathcal{U}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{C}) : \det M \neq 0\}. \end{aligned}$$

~~What~~
 the multiplication of matrices gives $(GL(2, \mathbb{C}), \cdot)$
 the structure of group.

Now, the identification

$$T(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d} \in \mathcal{M} \longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{M}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{C})$$

shows that $(\mathcal{M}, \circ) = (GL(2, \mathbb{C}), \cdot)$.

$$\sqrt{\frac{az+b}{cz+d} \circ \frac{Az+B}{Cz+D} = \frac{a \left(\frac{Az+B}{Cz+D} \right) + b}{c \left(\frac{Az+B}{Cz+D} \right) + d} = \frac{(aA+bC)z + aB + bD}{(cA+dC)z + cB + dD}}$$

$$\begin{matrix} ? & ? \\ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix} = \begin{pmatrix} aA+bC & aB+bD \\ cA+dC & cB+dD \end{pmatrix}$$

② It's usual to use the following argument to find explicitly the Möbius transformation $T: T(z_1) = w_1, T(z_2) = w_2, T(z_3) = w_3$.

Here it goes: solve the equation

$$(T(z), w_1, w_2, w_3) = (z, z_1, z_2, z_3)$$

for $T(z)$.

Example - Find T such that $T(1) = 2$,
 $T(i) = 3$, $T(-1) = 4$.

We have

$$(T(z), 2, 3, 4) = (z, 1, i, -1)$$

$$\equiv \frac{T(z) - 3}{T(z) - 4} : \frac{2 - 3}{2 - 4} = \frac{z - i}{z + 1} : \frac{1 - i}{1 + 1}$$

$$\equiv T(z) = \frac{(2 - 4i)z + (2 + 4i)}{(1 - i)z + (1 + i)}$$

Why does this work? Because of the definition of cross-ratio.

$$(T(z), w_1, w_2, w_3) = (z, z_1, z_2, z_3) \equiv \text{image of } z \text{ under } S$$

" "
 image of $T(z)$
 under M

$$M: \begin{cases} w_1 \rightarrow 1 \\ w_2 \rightarrow 0 \\ w_3 \rightarrow \infty \end{cases}$$

$$S: \begin{cases} z_1 \rightarrow 1 \\ z_2 \rightarrow 0 \\ z_3 \rightarrow \infty \end{cases}$$

then, essentially we do $M \circ T(z) = S(z)$

$$\Rightarrow T(z) = M^{-1} \circ S(z)$$

$$\text{and, } T(z_1) = M^{-1} \circ S(z_1) = M^{-1}(1) = w_1$$

$$T(z_2) = w_2$$

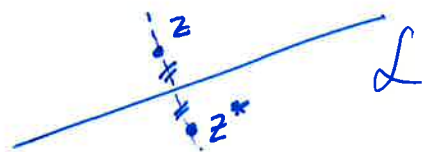
$$T(z_3) = w_3$$

③ Symmetric points.

I did not have time to talk about this in our lectures. But I would say it is interesting to say a few words about this topic...

Given a line L in \mathbb{C} and $z \notin L$, it is not difficult to find the symmetric point z^* of z with respect to L , so that $\text{dist}(z, L) = \text{dist}(z^*, L)$ & $z^* \in L^\perp$.

In fact, if $z \in L$, $z^* = z$.



Example - z & \bar{z} are symmetric with respect to the real axis.

DEF. - If a linear transformation T carries the real axis into a circle $C \subset \hat{\mathbb{C}}$, we say that $w = Tz$ and $w^* = T\bar{z}$ are symmetric with respect to C . Equivalently,

z and z^* are symmetric with respect to the circle C through z_1, z_2, z_3 if and only if

$$(z^*, z_1, z_2, z_3) = \overline{(z, z_1, z_2, z_3)}$$

Hence, Möbius transformations preserve symmetry!

See L.V. Ahlfors, Complex Analysis 2nd Ed., McGraw-Hill,

pp. 80-82