

Classification of Möbius transformations.

Let $T \in M$, $T(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$, $ad-bc \neq 0$.

$$\text{then, } T(z) = \frac{\frac{a}{\sqrt{ad-bc}}z + \frac{b}{\sqrt{ad-bc}}}{\frac{c}{\sqrt{ad-bc}}z + \frac{d}{\sqrt{ad-bc}}} = \frac{Az+B}{Cz+D},$$

$$AD-BC = 1.$$

From now on, we identify T with its "normalize" transformation so that $ad-bc=1$.

DEF. - Two Möbius transformations T_1 and T_2 are conjugated if $\exists S \in M$:

$$T_1 = S^{-1} \circ T_2 \circ S.$$

Note that conjugation is an equivalence relation:

$$\rightarrow T \sim T: T = \text{Id}^{-1} \circ T \circ \text{Id}.$$

$$\rightarrow T_1 \sim T_2 \Rightarrow T_2 \sim T_1:$$

$$T_1 = S^{-1} \circ T_2 \circ S \Rightarrow T_2 = S \circ T_1 \circ S^{-1} \\ = (S^{-1})^{-1} \circ T_1 \circ S^{-1}.$$

$$\rightarrow T_1 \sim T_2 \ \& \ T_2 \sim T_3 \Rightarrow T_1 \sim T_3.$$

$$T_1 = S_2^{-1} \circ T_2 \circ S_2, \quad T_2 = S_3^{-1} \circ T_3 \circ S_3$$

$$\Rightarrow T_1 = S_2^{-1} \circ S_3^{-1} \circ T_3 \circ S_3 \circ S_2 \\ = (S_3 \circ S_2)^{-1} \circ T_3 \circ (S_3 \circ S_2).$$

Recall also the identification

$$T(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}.$$

(And $\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = 1$!).

Fixed points:

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

$$\Rightarrow c \neq 0, \quad z = \frac{a-d \pm \sqrt{(d-a)^2 + 4bc}}{2c} \Rightarrow 2 \text{ fixed}$$

points, $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{C}$. (maybe $z_1 = z_2$!)

$$\Rightarrow c = 0 \Rightarrow (d-a)z = -b.$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \textcircled{1} & d \neq a, \quad z = \frac{b}{d-a} \quad \& z = \infty \text{ fixed:} \\ & T(z) = \frac{a}{d}z + \frac{b}{d}. \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \textcircled{2} & d = a \Rightarrow T(z) = z + b \\ & \begin{cases} 1 \text{ fixed point: } \infty \\ \text{if } b \neq 0. \\ \text{all fixed points! } b = 0. \end{cases} \end{cases}$$

there are 2 cases when a given $T \in M$ can have 1 fixed point in \mathbb{C} (T is parabolic).

$$T(z) = z + b, \quad b \neq 0.$$

$$T(z) = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}, \quad (d-a)^2 + 4bc = 0.$$

Notice that since $ad - bc = 1 \equiv bc = ad - 1$, the second option gives

$$0 = (d-a)^2 + 4ad - 4 \equiv (a+d)^2 = 4.$$

$$\equiv \left[\text{Tr} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \right]^2 = 4$$

the first option: $\left(\text{Tr} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & b \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)^2 = 4$ as

well.

Hence T is parabolic $\Rightarrow \left[\text{Tr} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \right]^2 = 4$.

Does the reciprocal hold?

We will see that the answer is

~~YES~~. Hence,

$$T \text{ is parabolic} \iff \left[\text{Tr} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \right]^2 = 4.$$

We just need to see that if $\text{Tr}^2 = 4$, then T fixes 1 point. ($T \neq \text{Id}!$)

Assume that $T(z_1) = z_1, T(z_2) = z_2$ for $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{C}$.

$$\text{let } S(z) = \frac{z - z_1}{z - z_2} = \frac{\frac{z}{\sqrt{z_1 - z_2}} - \frac{z_1}{\sqrt{z_1 - z_2}}}{\frac{z}{\sqrt{z_1 - z_2}} - \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{z_1 - z_2}}}$$

then $S \circ T \circ S^{-1}$ fixes 0 and ∞ .

$$\equiv S \circ T \circ S^{-1} = kz = \frac{\sqrt{k}z + 0}{0z + \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}}} = R \quad (k \neq 0!)$$

$$\equiv T \sim R. \quad (\text{Tr } R)^2 = \left(\text{Tr} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{k} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \end{bmatrix} \right)^2$$

$$= \left(\sqrt{k} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \right)^2 = 4 \Leftrightarrow k + \frac{1}{k} = 2.$$

$$\Leftrightarrow k^2 - 2k + 1 = 0 \Leftrightarrow k = 1. \Rightarrow R = \text{Id}.$$

$$\Rightarrow T = \text{Id}.$$

If $z_2 = \infty$, consider $S(z) = z - z_1$.

Again, $S \circ T \circ S^{-1}$ fixes 0 and ∞ and we can argue as before.

Corollary (of the proof).

If T is not parabolic, $T \sim M_k$, $k \neq 1, 0$.

Moreover, if T is parabolic,

$$\text{then } T \sim \begin{pmatrix} a & 1 \\ 0 & a \end{pmatrix}, \quad a^2 = 1, \\ 2a = \pm 2.$$

$$\Rightarrow T(z) \sim \begin{cases} z+1 \\ z-1 \end{cases}.$$

And notice that $z+1 \not\sim z-1$:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} a & a+b \\ c & c+d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -a+c & d-b \\ -c & -d \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} c=a=0 \end{cases} \quad \underline{\underline{\text{NO!}}}. \quad \underline{\underline{\text{BUT}}} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix}$$

$\begin{matrix} z+1 & & z-1 \end{matrix}$

what's going on???

We can also prove the following lemma:

Lemma - $M_{k_1} \sim M_{k_2}$ ($k_1, k_2 \neq 1, 0$) $\Leftrightarrow k_1 \in \{k_2, \frac{1}{k_2}\}$.

$$M_{k_1} \sim M_{k_2} \Rightarrow \left(\sqrt{k_1} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_1}} \right)^2 = \left(\sqrt{k_2} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{k_2}} \right)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow k_1 + \frac{1}{k_1} = k_2 + \frac{1}{k_2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow k_1 - k_2 = \frac{1}{k_2} - \frac{1}{k_1} = \frac{k_1 - k_2}{k_1 k_2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} * & k_1 = k_2 \\ * & k_1 k_2 = 1 \rightarrow k_1 = \frac{1}{k_2} \end{cases}$$

Obviously, if $k_1 \in \{k_2, \frac{1}{k_2}\}$, $M_{k_1} \sim M_{k_2}$.

Since, in the case $k_1 = k_2 \rightarrow M_{k_1} = M_{k_2}$

and if $k_1 = \frac{1}{k_2}$ we can write

$$k_1 z = \frac{1}{k_2} z = \sqrt{k_2} k_2 \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{k_2}} z \right) = M_{\sqrt{k_2}} M_{k_2} M_{\sqrt{k_2}}^{-1} z.$$

Non-parabolic transformations.

We know that $T \sim M_k$, $k \neq 0, 1$.

T is called elliptic if $|k| = 1$. ($\sqrt{k} \neq 1$).

T is called loxodromic if $|k| \neq 1$.

Moreover, a loxodromic Möbius transformation $T \neq \text{Id}$ is hyperbolic if there's a disk D (possibly of radius ∞) such that $T(D) = D$.
Otherwise, T is said to be properly loxodromic.

Theorem - Let $T \neq \text{Id}$. then T is

(a) Parabolic $\Leftrightarrow \left[\text{Tr} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \right]^2 = 4 \equiv \text{Tr}^2 T = 4$

(b) Elliptic $\Leftrightarrow 0 \leq \text{Tr}^2(T) < 4$.

(c) Hyperbolic $\Leftrightarrow \text{Tr}^2(T) > 4$

(d) Properly loxodromic $\Leftrightarrow \text{Tr}^2(T) \neq |\text{Tr}^2(T)|$
& $|\text{Tr}^2(T)| > 4$.

Pf. - (a) already done.

(b) T elliptic $\Leftrightarrow T \sim \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{k} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \end{pmatrix}$, $|k| = 1, k \neq 1$.

$\equiv T \sim \begin{pmatrix} e^{i\theta} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{-i\theta} \end{pmatrix}$, $\theta \neq 0, \pi$ ($\sqrt{k} = 1 \Leftrightarrow k = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ & -1 \end{pmatrix}$
 $\Leftrightarrow e^{i\theta} = k, k \in \{0, \pi\}$)

$\Leftrightarrow \text{Tr}^2(T) = (e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta})^2 = e^{2i\theta} + e^{-2i\theta} + 2$

$= 2 + 2\cos\theta \in [0, 4)$.

(c) & (d) : Loxodromic $\Leftrightarrow |\text{Tr}^2(T)| > 4$.

$T \sim \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{k} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \end{pmatrix}$, $|k| \neq 1$.

$\Leftrightarrow \left| \sqrt{k} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} \right|^2 = |k| + \frac{1}{|k|} + 2, (|k| > 1)$,

> 4 .

Now, let's see that

$$T \text{ Hyperbolic} \Leftrightarrow \text{Tr}^2(T) > 4.$$

(notice this will end the proof!).

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{Tr}^2(T) = \left(\sqrt{k} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}}\right)^2 = k + \frac{1}{k} + 2 > 4$$

$$\Leftrightarrow k + \frac{1}{k} \in \mathbb{R} > 1 \text{ (and } |k|, \text{ say, } > 1).$$

$$k = Re^{i\theta} \text{ then } Re^{i\theta} + \frac{e^{-i\theta}}{R}$$

$$= \left(R + \frac{1}{R}\right) \cos\theta + \left(R - \frac{1}{R}\right) \sin\theta i \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \theta = \begin{cases} 0 \\ \pi \end{cases} \Rightarrow k \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } k > 1.$$

$$\text{that is } T \equiv S^{-1} \circ M_k \circ S, \quad k > 1.$$

Let $\mathbb{H} = \{w \in \mathbb{C} : \text{Im}w > 0\}$, and notice that $M_k(\mathbb{H}) = \mathbb{H}$!

then, let $D = S^{-1}(\mathbb{H})$ - which is a circle!

and note that

$$T(D) = S^{-1}(M_k(\mathbb{H})) = S^{-1}(\mathbb{H}) = D.$$

$$\Rightarrow T \sim M_k \text{ for some } |k| > 1.$$

$$\equiv T = S^{-1} \circ M_k \circ S \equiv M_k = S \circ T \circ S^{-1}.$$

Let D be the disk (or half-plane) with $T(D) = D$. And set $H = S(D)$ - also a disk or a half-plane.

Moreover,

$$M_k(H) = S \circ T(D) = S(D) = H.$$

Hence, in fact, we have $\forall z \in H$,

$$n \in \mathbb{N}; \quad [M_k(z)]^n = k^n z \in H.$$

Also, since $M_k(H) = H$, we have

$$H = M_k^{-1}(H) = M_{\frac{1}{k}}(H).$$

$$\text{And, then, } [M_k(z)]^{-n} = M_{\frac{1}{k}} z = \frac{1}{k^n} z \in H.$$

Now, if $z \neq 0, \infty \in H$, we have, since $|k| > 1$,

$$k^n z \rightarrow \infty, \quad k^{-n} z \rightarrow 0, \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

$\Rightarrow \infty, 0 \in \bar{H}$ and thus H is a half-plane

But the same holds $\forall z \notin H$, and we conclude that ∂H is a line passing through the origin. Hence

k must be positive (> 1) and

$$(\text{tr } M_k)^2 = (\text{tr } T)^2 > 4 \quad \square.$$