

# BUGLES (BU Geometry Learning Expository Seminar)

Roderic Guigo  
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## Riemann Surfaces and Discrete Groups

- Plan:
- Uniformisation
  - Fuchsian Groups
  - Automorphisms of Riemann surfaces

Facts: Prop 1-27:

- $\text{Aut}(\hat{\mathbb{C}}) = \left\{ z \mapsto \frac{az+b}{cz+d} \right\}$
- $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{C}) = \{ z \mapsto az+b \}$
- $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{H}) = \left\{ z \mapsto \frac{az+b}{cz+d} \mid a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$

Thm 1-69:

- $\Sigma$  has a universal cover,  $\tilde{\Sigma}$ , and  $\pi_1(\tilde{\Sigma}) = 1$
- $\tilde{\Sigma} \rightarrow \Sigma$  holomorphic
- $\Sigma = \tilde{\Sigma}/G$ ,  $G = \pi_1(\Sigma)$   
 $G$  acts freely and properly discontinuously

### I. Uniformisation

Thm (Uniformization): The only simply connected Riemann surfaces (up to isomorphism) are  $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$ ,  $\mathbb{C}$ ,  $\mathbb{H}$ .

Combining with 1-69, we see that all RS's are a quotient of one of these three.

Thm: Let  $\Sigma$  be a Riemann surface.

- Then
- $g=0 \Rightarrow \Sigma \cong \hat{\mathbb{C}}$
  - $g=1 \Rightarrow \Sigma \cong \mathbb{C}/\Lambda$
  - $g \geq 2 \Rightarrow \Sigma \cong \mathbb{H}/K$

- Pf:
- $g=0$ : Uniformization
  - $g=1$ :  $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$  can't be a cover (by RH)
  - $g=1$ :  $\pi_1(\Sigma) = \mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$  abelian

Lemma: No subgroup of  $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{H})$  isomorphic to  $\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}$  acting freely and prop. disc.

So  $\tilde{\Sigma} = \mathbb{C}$ ,  $z \mapsto az+b$ , free if  $a \neq 1$ ,  $z \mapsto z+\lambda$ ,  $z \mapsto z+\lambda_2$

- $g \geq 2$ :  $\pi_1(\Sigma)$  not abelian, but  $z \mapsto z+\lambda$  is abelian!

$$\Sigma = \mathbb{H}/K, \quad K \leq \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R}).$$

□

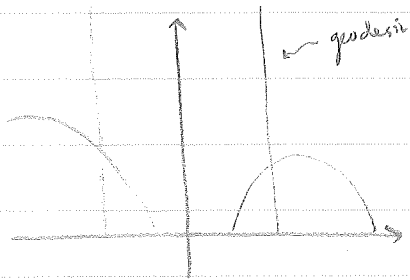
Goal: Understand  $\Sigma$  as  $\tilde{\Sigma}/G$ .

## Fuchsian Groups

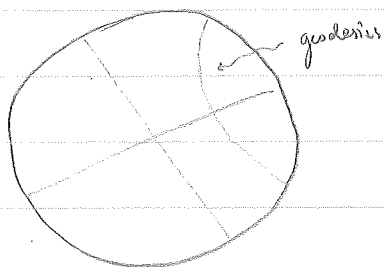
( $g \geq 2$ )

$$\text{Aut}(\mathbb{H}) = \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R}) = \text{Isom}^r \left( \mathbb{H}, \frac{|dz|^2}{\text{Im } z} \right).$$

## Hyperbolic $\mathbb{H}$ , $\mathbb{D}$



$PSL(2, \mathbb{R})$  acts transitively on geodesics



Dfn: A Fuchsian group is a discrete subgroup of  $PSL(2, \mathbb{R})$ .

Remark: (Proof in the book) Even if  $\Gamma$  doesn't act freely,

$$\mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}/\Gamma$$

is still a covering map.

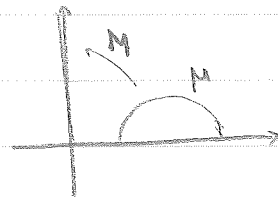
$\mathbb{H}/\Gamma$  has the structure of a Riemann surface.

## Reflection in $\mathbb{H}$

Say  $\mu$  is a geodesic.

There is  $M \in PSL(2, \mathbb{R})$  such that

$$M(\mu) = \text{imaginary axis}$$



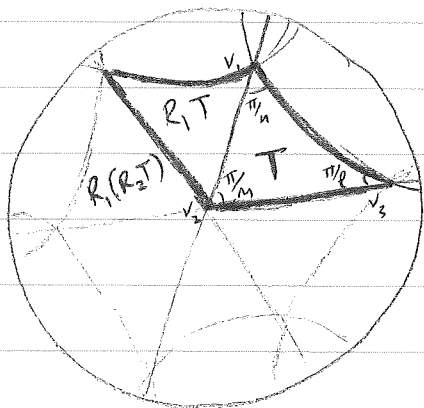
Let  $R = -\bar{z}$  be reflection over the imaginary axis

Then  $R_\mu = M^{-1} \circ R \circ M$  is a reflection over  $\mu$ .

$$R_\mu = \frac{a\bar{z} + b}{c\bar{z} + d} \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$$

## Triangle groups

Given  $n, m, l \in \mathbb{Z} \cup \{\infty\}$ , there exists a hyperbolic triangle with angles  $\frac{\pi}{n}, \frac{\pi}{m}, \frac{\pi}{l}$  if  $\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{m} + \frac{1}{l} < 1$  with area  $\pi(1 - \frac{1}{n} - \frac{1}{m} - \frac{1}{l})$



Let  $R_1 =$  reflection over  $\overline{v_1 v_2}$

$R_2 =$  reflection over  $\overline{v_2 v_3}$

$R_3 =$  reflection over  $\overline{v_3 v_1}$

Problem:  $R_i \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \text{Soln: } x_1 &= R_3 R_1 \\ x_2 &= R_1 R_2 \\ x_3 &= R_2 R_3 \end{aligned} \right\} \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{R})$$

New fundamental domain for the  $x_i$ -action is the quadrilateral labelled above.

So this defines a Fuchsian group with presentation

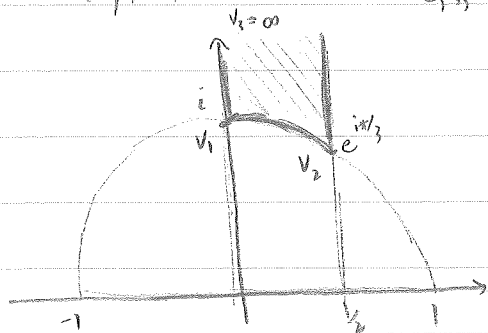
$$\langle x_1, x_2, x_3 \mid x_1^n = x_2^m = x_3^l = x_1 x_2 x_3 = 1 \rangle.$$

Note that  $n, m, l$  can equal  $\infty$ .

Defn: Let  $\Gamma_{n,m,l}$  be the triangle group with signature  $(\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{m}, \frac{1}{l})$ .

Remark: •  $\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{m} + \frac{1}{l} = 1$  still works on  $\mathbb{C}$   
 •  $\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{m} + \frac{1}{l} > 1$  still works on  $\hat{\mathbb{C}}$

Examples ( $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$ ) Consider  $\Gamma_{2,3,\infty}$  - angles  $\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{3}, 0$



$$\left. \begin{aligned} R_1 &= \frac{1}{z} \\ R_2 &= 1 - \bar{z} \\ R_3 &= -\bar{z} \end{aligned} \right\} \rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 = -1/z \\ x_2 = \frac{1}{1-z} \\ x_3 = z+1 \end{cases}$$

Thm:  $\Gamma_{2,3,\infty} \cong \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z})$

Observation:  $P_1 \subseteq P_2$ ,  $T$  is a fundamental domain of  $\Gamma_2$ .

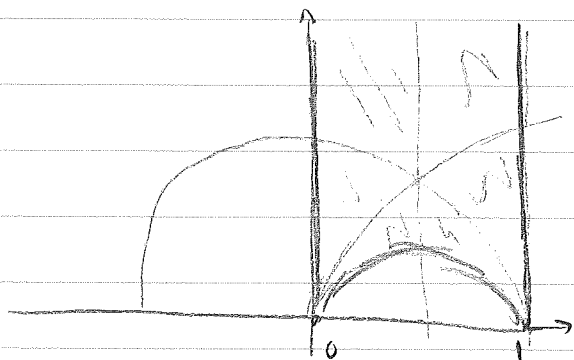
Then if  $p_1, \dots, p_n \in P_2$  are representatives of  $P_2/\Gamma_1$ , then  $\cup p_i(T)$  is a fundamental domain for  $P_1$ .

Example ( $P(2)$ )  $P(2) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \mid \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \equiv I \pmod{2} \right\}$

$$[\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) : P(2)] = 6$$

Representatives of  $PSL(2, \mathbb{Z})/\mathcal{P}(z)$  are  $x_1 = \text{id}$ ,  $x_2 = \frac{-1}{z-1}$ ,  $x_3 = \frac{z-1}{z}$ ,  
 $x_4 = z-1$ ,  $x_5 = \frac{-z}{z-1}$ ,  $x_6 = -1/z$ .

Translating the fundamental domain of  $PSL(2, \mathbb{Z})$  we get a new fundamental domain



So angles are 0!

$\Rightarrow$  This corresponds to  $\Gamma_{\infty, \infty, \infty}$ , i.e.

$$\langle x_1, x_2, x_3 \mid x_1 x_2 x_3 = 1 \rangle = \langle x_1, x_2 \rangle = \pi_1(\mathbb{P}^1 \setminus \{0, 1, \infty\})$$

### Automorphisms of RSCs ( $g \geq 2$ )

Prop:  $S_1 = \mathbb{H}/\Gamma_1$ ,  $S_2 = \mathbb{H}/\Gamma_2$ , then  $S_1 \stackrel{\phi}{\cong} S_2 \Leftrightarrow \Gamma_1 = T \circ \Gamma_2 \circ T^{-1}$ ,  
 $T \in PSL(2, \mathbb{R})$

Pf: ( $\Leftarrow$ ) Define  $\phi: S_1 \xrightarrow{\sim} S_2$  by  $\phi([z]_1) = [T(z)]_2$

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Take a lift  $\mathbb{H} \xrightarrow{\tilde{\phi}} \mathbb{H}$



$$T = \tilde{\phi}$$

$$S_1 \xrightarrow{\phi} S_2$$

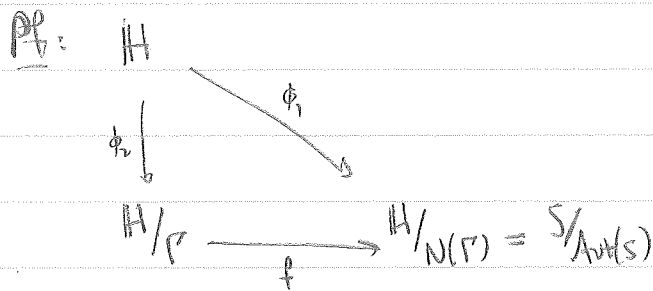
□

Prop:  $\Gamma$  Fuchsian gp, acts freely.  
 Then  $\text{Aut}(\mathbb{H}/\Gamma) = N(\Gamma)/\Gamma$

Pf: Previous prop set  $\Gamma_1 = \Gamma_2$ , get  
 $N(\Gamma) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathbb{H}/\Gamma)$ .

Kernel is  $\Gamma$ . □

Cor:  $\Sigma$  is a Riemann surface with  $g \geq 2$ . Then  
 $|\text{Aut}(\Sigma)| < \infty$



Since  $\phi_1, \phi_2$  holomorphic, so is  $f$ .

$$\deg f = \# N(\Gamma)/\Gamma.$$

Since  $f$  holomorphic and these RSBs are compact,  $\deg f < \infty$ . □

Say  $\Sigma$  a Riemann surface with  $g \geq 2$ ,  $G \subseteq \text{Aut}(\Sigma)$ .

Let  $\bar{g}$  be the genus of  $\Sigma/G$ .

$$2g - 2 = \# G \cdot (2\bar{g} - 2) + \sum_{p \in \Sigma} (\# \text{Stab}(p) - 1)$$

## Exercises

①  $\Sigma$ ,  $g \geq 2$ ; then  $\# \text{Aut}(\Sigma) \leq 84(g-1)$

Hint: Cases

② Consider

$$1 \longrightarrow \Gamma(n) \longrightarrow \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow \text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}) \longrightarrow 1$$

and compute the genus of  $\mathbb{H}/\Gamma(n)$ .