

# Lecture 8. POINCARÉ HALF-PLANE MODEL

## §1. Linear-fractional transformations

The transformation of the Riemann sphere  $\bar{\mathbb{C}}$  given by the rules  $z \mapsto \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$ , where  $cb-ad \neq 0$  and  $-d/c \mapsto \infty, \infty \mapsto a/c$  is called linear-fractional.

Theorem 1. Linear-fractional transformations are bijections of  $\bar{\mathbb{C}}$ , they form a group (denoted  $PGL_2(\mathbb{C})$ ), they preserve the cross ratio  $\langle z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4 \rangle = \frac{z_3-z_1}{z_3-z_2} \cdot \frac{z_4-z_1}{z_4-z_2}$ , they take lines or circles to lines or circles, they preserve angles. For any pair of triplets  $(z_1, z_2, z_3), (w_1, w_2, w_3)$  there exists a unique linear-fractional transformation taking  $z_i$  to  $w_i, i=1,2,3$ .

All these facts were proved in the exercise class (week 6)

Hint:  $z \mapsto cz+d =: z_1 \mapsto cz_1 =: z_2 \mapsto \frac{1}{z_2} =: z_3 \mapsto (bc-ad)z_3 =: z_4$   
 $\dots z_4 \mapsto \frac{a}{c} + z_4 = \frac{a}{c} + \frac{bc-ad}{c(cz+d)} = \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$

Examples (1)  $\Omega: z \mapsto \frac{1+z}{1-z}$  takes  $\{z: |z| < 1\}$  to  $\mathbb{C}_+ = \{z: \text{Im} z > 0\}$

(2) The map  $z \mapsto (az+b)/(cz+d)$  (or  $z \mapsto (a-\bar{z})+b)/(c(-\bar{z})+d), a,b,c,d \in \mathbb{R}$  is a bijection of  $\mathbb{C}_+$  to itself. Such maps form a group denoted  $\mathcal{M}^*$

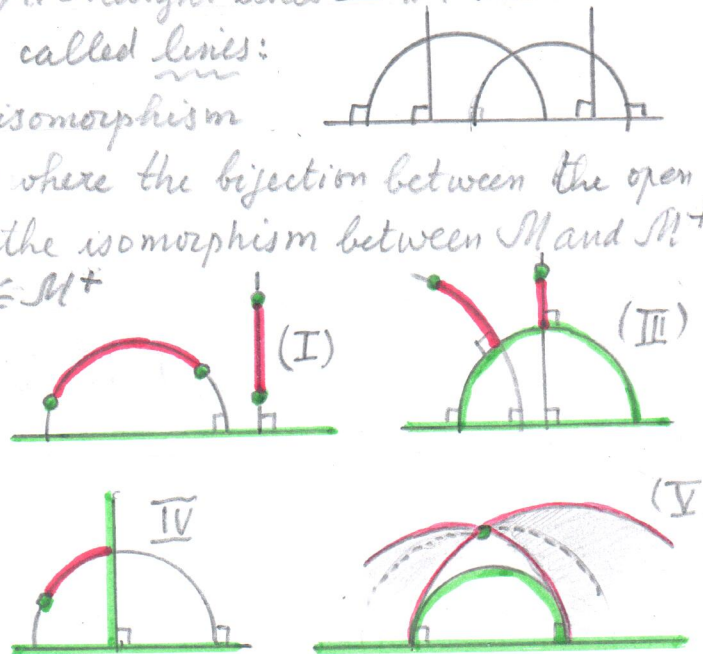
## §2. The half-plane model

The geometry  $(\mathbb{C}_+, \mathcal{M}^*)$  is called the Poincaré half-plane model, the line  $\text{Im} z = 0$  is its absolute  $A$ . Straight lines  $\perp A$  and half circles with centers on  $A$  are called lines:

Theorem 2. The map  $\Omega$  defines an isomorphism of geometries  $(\mathbb{H}^2; \mathcal{M}) \cong (\mathbb{C}_+; \mathcal{M}^*)$  where the bijection between the open disk and  $\mathbb{C}_+$  is given by  $\Omega$  and the isomorphism between  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{M}^*$  is given by  $M \ni g \mapsto \Omega \circ g \circ \Omega \in \mathcal{M}^*$

Corollary The main properties I, III, IV, V (Lecture 7) also hold for the half-plane model.

See the figures:

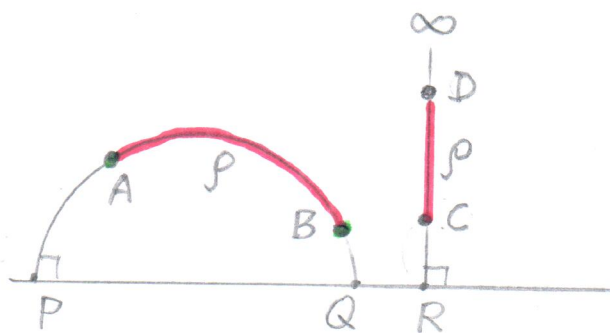


### §3. Distances

Define the distance between points

$$\rho(A, B) := \left| \ln \left( \frac{z_A - z_P}{z_B - z_P} : \frac{z_A - z_Q}{z_B - z_Q} \right) \right|$$

if  $\operatorname{Re} z_A \neq \operatorname{Re} z_B$ ;



$$\rho(C, D) = \left| \ln \left( \frac{z_C - z_R}{z_D - z_R} : \frac{z_C - z_{\infty}}{z_D - z_{\infty}} \right) \right| = \left| \ln \frac{CR}{DR} \right| \text{ if } \operatorname{Re} z_C = \operatorname{Re} z_D$$

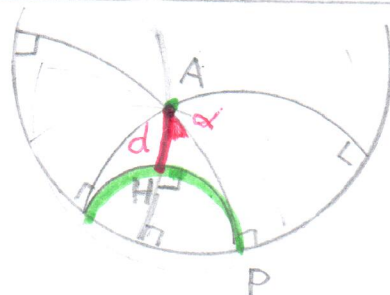
Theorem 3. The function  $\rho$  is a distance on  $\mathbb{C}_+$ , and the isometry group of  $\rho$  is isomorphic to  $M^*$ :  $\operatorname{Isom}_\rho \mathbb{C}_+ \cong M^* (\cong M)$ .

We have proved that any element of  $M^*$  preserves distances (because it preserves cross-ratio). We omit the proof of the fact that any element of  $\operatorname{Isom}_\rho(\mathbb{C}_+)$  is actually an element of  $M^*$ .

### §4. Angle of parallelism

Theorem 4. The angle  $HAP$ , called the angle of parallelism depends only on  $d = AH$  and is given by the formulas

$$\boxed{\tan \alpha/2 = e^{-d}} \quad \text{and} \quad \boxed{\operatorname{tanh} d = \cos \alpha}$$



### §5. Absolute constants

The area of the "infinite triangle" and the Schweikart constant  $\mathcal{G} = OH$  are both absolute constants of hyperbolic geometry.

