

On Siegel's Modular Group.

by BIRMAN, J.S.

in Mathematische Annalen

volume 191; pp. 59 - 68



Göttingen State and University Library

Terms and Conditions

The Göttingen State and University Library provides access to digitized documents strictly for noncommercial educational, research and private purposes and makes no warranty with regard to their use for other purposes. Some of our collections are protected by copyright. Publication and/or broadcast in any form (including electronic) requires prior written permission from the Göttingen State- and University Library.

Each copy of any part of this document must contain these Terms and Conditions. With the usage of the library's online-systems to access or download a digitized document you accept these Terms and Conditions.

Reproductions of materials on the web site may not be made for or donated to other repositories, nor may they be further reproduced without written permission from the Göttingen State- and University Library.

For reproduction requests and permissions, please contact us. If citing materials, please give proper attribution of the source.

Contact:

Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen

Digitalisierungszentrum

37070 Göttingen

Germany

E-Mail: gdz@www.sub.uni-goettingen.de

Purchase a CD-ROM

The Göttingen State and University Library offers CD-ROMs containing whole volumes / monographs in PDF for Adobe Acrobat. The PDF-version contains the table of contents as bookmarks, which allows easy navigation in the document. For availability and pricing, please contact:

Niedersächsische Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Göttingen

Digitalisierungszentrum

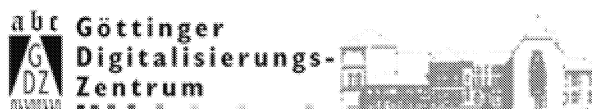
37070 Göttingen

Germany

E-Mail: gdz@www.sub.uni-goettingen.de



Göttingen State and University Library



On Siegel's Modular Group

JOAN S. BIRMAN

Siegel's modular group Γ_g is the group of all $2g \times 2g$ matrices with integral entries which satisfy the condition:

$$SJS' = J$$

where $S \in \Gamma_g$, S' = transpose of S , and if I_g and 0_g are the $g \times g$ unit and zero matrices respectively, then:

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} 0_g & I_g \\ -I_g & 0_g \end{pmatrix}.$$

Generators for Γ_g were first determined by Hua and Reiner [4], and in 1961 Klingen [5] obtained a characterization of Γ_g for $g \geq 2$ by a finite system of defining relations. However, Klingen's results have been of somewhat limited use because, while he gives a procedure for finding defining relations, he does not carry it through explicitly, and in fact the explicit determination of such a system involves a fairly tedious and lengthy calculation. Finding ourselves in the position of needing explicit information about Γ_g , we set ourselves the task of reducing Klingen's results to a more useable form. The primary purpose of the paper is to give the results of this calculation (Theorem 1) and to describe the methodology behind our proof.

It is well known that the group Γ_g is a homomorphic image of the mapping class group $M(T_g)$ of a sphere with g handles [7]. In Theorem 2 we determine explicitly the lifts of the generators of Γ_g to $M(T_g)$, and characterize the kernel of the homomorphism as the normal closure of a specified set of elements in $M(T_g)$.

Theorem 1. *Let $\{Y_i, U_i, Z_j; 1 \leq i \leq g, 1 \leq j \leq g-1\}$ denote the $2g \times 2g$ matrices defined in the table. Then these matrices generate Siegel's modular group Γ_g , and defining relations are:*

$$(Y_i, U_j, Z_k) \leftrightarrow (Y_r, U_s, Z_t) \quad (i \neq s; j \neq r, t, t+1; k \neq s, s-1; \quad (1.1) \\ 1 \leq k, t \leq g-1; 1 \leq i, j, r, s \leq g),$$

$$Y_i U_i Y_i = U_i Y_i U_i \quad (1 \leq i \leq g), \quad (1.2)$$

$$U_j Z_t U_j = Z_t U_j Z_t \quad (t = j, j-1; 1 \leq j \leq g, 1 \leq t \leq g-1) \quad (1.3)$$

$$Z_{i+1} = P_i P_{i+1} Z_i P_{i+1}^{-1} P_i^{-1} \quad (1 \leq i \leq g-2, g \geq 3), \quad (1.4)$$

$$P_i = (Y_i U_i Y_i) (Y_i U_i Z_i U_{i+1} Y_{i+1})^3 (Y_i U_i Y_i)^{-1} \quad (1 \leq i \leq g-1), \quad (1.5)$$

$$(Y_1 U_1 Y_1)^4 = 1, \quad (1.6)$$

$$(Y_1 U_1 Z_1 U_2 Y_2)^6 = 1, \quad (1.7)$$

$$(Y_1 U_1 Z_1 U_2 Y_2^2 U_2 Z_1 U_1 Y_1)^2 = 1, \quad (1.8)$$

$$Y_1 U_1 Z_1 U_2 Y_2^2 U_2 Z_1 U_1 Y_1 \rightleftharpoons Y_1, \quad (1.9)$$

$$P_2 Z_1 P_2^{-1} = (Y_3 Y_2 Y_1) (Z_1^{-1} U_2 Z_2^{-1} U_2^{-1} Y_2^{-1} U_2 Z_1 U_2 Z_2 Y_2^{-1} U_2^{-1}) (g \geq 3), \quad (1.10)$$

where the symbol $() \rightleftharpoons ()$ means that the quantities on the LHS commute pairwise with the quantities on the RHS for appropriate combination of the indices.

Outline of Proof. The Y_i, U_i, Z_j generate Γ_g , because according to Klingen [5] Γ_g is generated by the matrices:

$$\{O_{i-1}, d_{i-1,i}, d_{i,i-1}, M_1^{(g)}, M_2^{(g)}; 2 \leq i \leq g\}$$

listed in the table and these matrices can be expressed as the following power products of the Y_i, U_i, Z_j :

$$O_{i-1} = (Y_{i-1} U_{i-1} Y_{i-1})^2, \quad (2.1)$$

$$d_{i-1,i} = Y_{i-1}^{-1} Y_i^{-1} U_i^{-1} Y_i^{-1} Z_{i-1} U_i Y_i, \quad (2.2)$$

$$d_{i,i-1} = Y_i Y_{i-1} U_{i-1} Y_{i-1} Z_{i-1}^{-1} U_{i-1}^{-1} Y_{i-1}^{-1}, \quad (2.3)$$

$$M_1^{(g)} = U_g, \quad (2.4)$$

$$M_2^{(g)} = (Y_g U_g Y_g)^{-1}. \quad (2.5)$$

Following Klingen, defining relations for Γ_g include 4 separate systems of relation which we will designate as sets (3), (4), (5), (6). Set (3) consists of defining relations for the subgroup $\Gamma_2^{(1)}$ of Γ_g generated by $\{Y_1, Y_2, U_1, U_2, Z_1\}$ ¹. This set is not given explicitly by Klingen, who instead refers the reader to the work of Gottschling [3], who gives a procedure which makes it possible to determine defining relative for $\Gamma_2^{(1)}$. We instead determine defining relations for $\Gamma_2^{(1)}$ by utilizing the work of Gold [2], who found defining relation for the quotient group S_2 of $\Gamma_2 \simeq \Gamma_2^{(1)}$ obtained by adding the relation that a matrix and its negative are identified. Noting that the matrix

$$Y_1 U_1 Z_1 U_2 Y_2^2 U_2 Z_1 U_1 Y_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

¹ Klingen actually considers a subgroup which he calls \mathfrak{D} , and which we will denote by $\Gamma_2^{(g-1)}$ where $\Gamma_2^{(i)}$ = subgroup generated by $\{Y_i, U_i, Z_i, U_{i+1}, Y_{i+1}\}$ $1 \leq i \leq g-1$. We note that the subgroups $\Gamma_2^{(i)}$, $1 \leq i \leq g-1$, are all conjugate in Γ_g , and that in view of relations (7.3)–(7.6), which we will show later are a consequence of set (1), if defining relations for any one of them are implied by set (1), then defining relations for the others are too.

Table

$$y_i = \begin{pmatrix} I & -A_i \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix} \quad U_i = M_1^{(i)} = \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ A_i & I \end{pmatrix} \quad Z_i = \begin{pmatrix} I & B_i \\ 0 & I \end{pmatrix}$$

$$O_i = \begin{pmatrix} I - 2A_i & 0 \\ 0 & I - 2A_i \end{pmatrix} \quad d_{i,i+1} = \begin{pmatrix} C_i & 0 \\ 0 & (C_i)^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$d_{i+1,i} = \begin{pmatrix} C_i & 0 \\ 0 & C_i^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \quad M_2^{(i)} = \begin{pmatrix} I - A_i & A_i \\ -A_i & I - A_i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A_i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & 0 & & \\ & & & 1 & \\ & & & & 0 \\ & & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & & 0 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow i^{\text{th}} \text{ row}$$

$$B_i = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & -1 & 1 & \\ & & 1 & -1 & \\ & & & & 0 \\ & & & & & \ddots \\ & & & & & & 0 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow i^{\text{th}} \text{ row}$$

$$C_i = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \\ & & 11 & & \\ & & 01 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow i^{\text{th}} \text{ row}$$

where: I is $g \times g$ identity matrix,
 0 is $g \times g$ zero matrix,
 A_i, B_i, C_i are each $g \times g$ matrices, with all entries not shown explicitly intended to be zero.

is in Γ_2 , and also that this matrix is in the center of Γ_2 and has order 2, it follows that defining relations for $\Gamma_2^{(1)}$ can be obtained from those for S_2 by computing the lifts of Gold's defining relations in S_2 to $\Gamma_2^{(1)}$, and adding the relations

$$(Y_1 U_1 Z_1 U_2 Y_2^2 U_2 Z_1 U_1 Y_1)^2 = 1, \tag{3.1}$$

$$(Y_1 U_1 Z_1 U_2 Y_2^2 U_2 Z_1 U_1 Y_1) \bowtie Y_1, Y_2, U_1, U_2, Z_1. \tag{3.2}$$

Now, Gold's system of defining relations for S_2 are given by Eqs. $D_1 - D_{16}$ on p. 27 of [2]. Noting that the elements which Gold denotes by A_1, A_2, B_1, B_2, B_3 lift respectively to $U_1^{-1}, U_2^{-1}, Y_1^{-1}, Y_2^{-1}, Z_1$ in $\Gamma_2^{(1)}$, we find that Gold's system

of defining relations for S_2 (after minor changes in notation) lift to the following relations in $\Gamma_2^{(1)}$:

$$Y_1 \Leftrightarrow Y_2, \quad (3.3)$$

$$U_1 \Leftrightarrow Y_2, \quad (3.4)$$

$$J_2 = (U_1 Y_1 U_1)(U_2 Y_2 U_2), \quad (3.5)$$

$$A_3 = J_2 Z_1 J_2^{-1}, \quad (3.6)$$

$$(U_1, U_2) \Leftrightarrow A_3, \quad (3.7)$$

$$(U_1 Y_1 U_1)^4 = 1, \quad (3.8)$$

$$(U_1 Y_1 U_1)^2 = (U_1 Y_1)^3, \quad (3.9)$$

$$P_1 = (U_1 Y_1 U_1)(Y_1 U_1 Z_1 U_2 Y_2)^3 (U_1^{-1} Y_1^{-1} U_1^{-1}), \quad (3.10)$$

$$Y_2 = P_1 Y_1 P_1^{-1}, \quad (3.11)$$

$$R_3 = (U_1 Y_1 U_1)^{-2}, \quad (3.12)$$

$$Y_1 \Leftrightarrow R_3, \quad (3.13)$$

$$R_4 = R_3 P_1 U_1 U_2^{-1} A_3^{-1} Y_1 U_1^{-1} A_3 Y_1^{-1} P_1^{-1}, \quad (3.14)$$

$$Z_1 = R_4 Y_1 R_4^{-1}, \quad (3.15)$$

$$P_1^2 = 1, \quad (3.16)$$

$$R_4^2 = 1, \quad (3.17)$$

$$(P_1 R_3)^4 = 1, \quad (3.18)$$

$$J_2^2 = Y_1 U_1 Z_1 U_2 Y_2^2 U_2 Z_1 U_1 Y_1, \quad (3.19)$$

$$J_2 \Leftrightarrow R_3, \quad (3.20)$$

$$J_2 R_4 J_2^{-1} P_1 R_3 R_4^{-1} R_3^{-1} P_1^{-1} = 1. \quad (3.21)$$

Set (4) is the set of defining relations for the subgroup $\mathfrak{U} \subset \Gamma_g$ of "rotations", i.e. The subset of Γ_g consisting of all symplectic matrices of the form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & 0_g \\ 0_g & B \end{pmatrix}$$

where the symplectic condition implies that $B = (A')^{-1}$, and for these Klingen refers the reader to the work of Magnus [6]. Turning to Magnus' paper, we find that \mathfrak{U} is generated by the elements

$$\{O_{i-1}, d_{i-1,i}, d_{i,i-1}; i = 2, 3, \dots, g\}$$

which are defined in terms of our generators by Eqs. (2.1), (2.2), and (2.3) above, and has defining relations:

$$(O_{i-1}, d_{i-1,i}, d_{i,i-1}) \Leftrightarrow (O_{k-1}, d_{k-1,k}, d_{k,k-1}) \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} i \neq k, k+1, k-1 \\ i, k = 2, \dots, g \end{array} \right), \quad (4.1)$$

$$P_{i-1} = O_{i-1} d_{i-1,i}^{-1} d_{i,i-1} d_{i-1,i}^{-1} \quad (4.2)$$

$$P_{i-1}^2 = 1 \quad (4.3)$$

$$O_{i-1}^2 = 1 \quad (4.4)$$

$$P_{i-1} O_{i-1} P_{i-1} = O_i \quad (i = 2, 3, \dots, g), \quad (4.5)$$

$$(O_{i-1} d_{i-1,i})^2 = 1 \quad (4.6)$$

$$(O_i d_{i-1,i})^2 = 1 \quad (4.7)$$

$$P_{i-1} d_{i-1,i} P_{i-1} = d_{i,i-1} \quad (4.8)$$

$$P_i P_{i-1} P_i = P_{i-1} P_i P_{i-1} \quad (4.9)$$

$$(O_{i-1} P_i)^2 = 1 \quad (4.10)$$

$$(P_{i-1} P_i P_{i-1}) d_{i-1,i} (P_{i-1} P_i P_{i-1}) = d_{i+1,i} \quad (4.11)$$

$$O_{i+1} d_{i-1,i} O_{i+1} = d_{i-1,i} \quad (i = 2, 3, \dots, g-1), \quad (4.12)$$

$$d_{i-1,i} d_{i+1,i} d_{i-1,i}^{-1} d_{i+1,i}^{-1} = 1 \quad (4.13)$$

$$d_{i,i-1} d_{i,i+1} d_{i,i-1}^{-1} d_{i,i+1}^{-1} = 1 \quad (4.14)$$

$$d_{i+1,i} d_{i,i-1} d_{i+1,i}^{-1} d_{i,i-1}^{-1} = P_i d_{i,i-1} P_i^{-1} \quad (4.15)$$

$$d_{kr} = d_{kl} d_{lr} d_{kl}^{-1} d_{lr}^{-1} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} (k > l > r, s > t \\ (k, l, r, s, t = 1, 2, \dots, g) \end{array} \right\} \quad (4.16)$$

$$d_{kl} d_{st} d_{kl}^{-1} d_{st}^{-1} = 1 \quad (l \neq s, k \neq t). \quad (4.17)$$

$$d_{kl} \Leftrightarrow (O_{i-1}, d_{i,i-1}, d_{i-1,i}) \quad (k, l \neq i, i-1; k > l+1; i, k, l = 2, \dots, g), \quad (4.18)$$

$$d_{k,i-1} O_{i-1} = O_{i-1} d_{k,i-1}^{-1} \quad (4.19)$$

$$d_{k,i-1} O_k = O_k d_{k,i-1}^{-1} \quad (4.20)$$

$$d_{k,i-1} \Leftrightarrow d_{k,k+1} \quad (k > i) \quad (4.21)$$

$$d_{k,i-1} \Leftrightarrow d_{i-2,i-1} \quad \text{if } i > 2 \quad (i, k = 2, \dots, g). \quad (4.22)$$

$$d_{k,i-1} d_{k-1,k} = d_{k-1,k} d_{k,i-1} d_{k-1,k}^{-1} \quad (4.23)$$

$$d_{k,i-1} d_{i-1,i} = d_{i-1,i} d_{k,i-1} d_{k,i} \quad (4.24)$$

The third set of relations which Klingen shows is needed to obtain defining relations for Γ_g are given in Eqs. (8), (10), (23), and (27) of [5], and we list them as set (5):

$$M_1^{(v)} = U_v \quad (v = 1, \dots, g), \quad (5.1)$$

$$M_2^{(v)} = (U_v Y_v U_v)^{-1} \quad (v = 1, \dots, g), \quad (5.2)$$

$$t_{kl} = (U_k Y_k U_k) d_{kl} (U_k Y_k U_k)^{-1} \quad (k > l; k, l = 1, \dots, g), \quad (5.3)$$

$$(P_{i-1}, d_{i,i-1}) \Leftrightarrow M_2^{(v)} \quad (v = 1, \dots, g; i = 2, \dots, g; v \neq i, i-1), \quad (5.4)$$

$$M_1^{(v)} \Leftrightarrow M_1^{(\mu)} \quad (v, \mu = 1, \dots, g), \quad (5.5)$$

$$M_1^{(v)} \Leftrightarrow t_{kl} \quad (v = 1, \dots, g; 1 \leq l < k \leq g), \quad (5.6)$$

$$t_{kl} \Leftrightarrow t_{rs} \quad (1 \leq l < k \leq g; 1 \leq r < s \leq g). \quad (5.7)$$

Finally, Klingenberg needs "the relation which corresponds to the matrix equation":

$$\begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ T & I \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U & 0 \\ 0 & (U')^{-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U & 0 \\ 0 & (U')^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ U' T U & I \end{pmatrix} \quad (6)$$

where we must consider all possible combinations obtained by setting:

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ T & I \end{pmatrix} &= U_v, t_{kl}, \\ \begin{pmatrix} U & 0 \\ 0 & (U')^{-1} \end{pmatrix} &= O_{i-1}, d_{i-1,i}, d_{i,i-1}, \\ \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ U' T U & I \end{pmatrix} &= \text{some power product of the } U_v, t_{kl} \end{aligned}$$

for $2 \leq i \leq g, 1 \leq v \leq g, g \geq k > l \geq 1$. In order to translate this into an explicit set of relations, it is first necessary to find the appropriate expression for the matrix on the extreme right in (6) for each case. After some experimentation, we find that (6) gives rise to the explicit relations:

$$O_{i-1} \Leftrightarrow U_v, \quad (6.1)$$

$$d_{i-1,i} \Leftrightarrow U_v \quad (v \neq i-1), \quad (6.2)$$

$$d_{i,i-1} \Leftrightarrow U_v \quad (v \neq i), \quad (6.3)$$

$$d_{i-1,i}^{-1} U_{i-1} d_{i-1,i} = d_{i,i-1}^{-1} U_i d_{i,i-1} = U_i U_{i-1} t_{i,i-1}, \quad (6.4)$$

$$O_{i-1} \Leftrightarrow t_{kl} \quad (i-1 \neq k, l), \quad (6.5)$$

$$O_l t_{kl} O_l = O_k t_{kl} O_k = t_{kl}^{-1}, \quad (6.6)$$

$$(d_{i-1,i}, d_{i,i-1}) \Leftrightarrow t_{kl} \quad (k, l \neq i-1, i), \quad (6.7)$$

$$d_{i-1,i}^{-1} t_{kl} d_{i-1,i} = t_{k,i-1} t_{ki} \quad (k \neq i-1, i; l = i-1), \quad (6.8)$$

$$= t_{il} \quad (k = i, l \neq i-1), \quad (6.9)$$

$$= U_i^2 t_{i,i-1} \quad (k = i, l = i-1), \quad (6.10)$$

$$= t_{i,l} t_{i-1,l} \quad (k = i-1), \quad (6.11)$$

$$d_{i,i-1}^{-1} t_{kl} d_{i,i-1} = t_{kl} \quad (k \neq i-1; l = i-1), \tag{6.12}$$

$$= t_{i,l} t_{i-1,l} \quad (k = i, l \neq i-1), \tag{6.13}$$

$$= U_{i-1}^2 t_{i,i-1} \quad (k = i, l = i-1), \tag{6.14}$$

$$= t_{i-1,l} \quad (k = i-1) \tag{6.15}$$

where $2 \leq i \leq g, 1 \leq v \leq g, 1 \leq l < k \leq g$.

We will not give details of our proof that relation (3), (4), (5), and (6) are consequences of set (1), however we will try to indicate the procedures which were used. Throughout the calculation, it is necessary to make repeated use of relations (1.1), (1.2), and (1.3). To proceed further, we add certain new relations (set 7), all of which can be verified to be consequences of relations in set (1), by repeated application of (1.1), (1.2), and (1.3). First, we note that the generators Y_i and U_i are related to each other by:

$$Y_i = J_g^\varepsilon U_i J_g^{-\varepsilon} \quad (\varepsilon = \pm 1, i = 1, 2, \dots, g), \tag{7.1}$$

$$J_g = Y_1 U_1 Y_1 Y_2 U_2 Y_2 \dots Y_g U_g Y_g. \tag{7.2}$$

Thus, for example, one notes that on conjugating both sides of (3.7) by J_g , and using (1.1), it goes over to:

$$(Y_1, Y_2) \rightleftharpoons Z_1$$

which is in set (1.1).

Next, we note that the matrices P_i defined by (1.5) play an important role, since:

$$Y_{i+1} = P Y_i P^{-1} \quad (i = 1, \dots, g-1), \tag{7.3}$$

$$U_{i+1} = P U_i P^{-1} \quad (i = 1, \dots, g-1), \tag{7.4}$$

$$Z_{i+1} = P Z_i P^{-1} \quad (i = 1, \dots, g-1), \tag{7.5}$$

$$P = P_1 P_2 \dots P_{g-1}. \tag{7.6}$$

Also, as a consequence of (7.3)–(7.6):

$$d_{i+1,i} = P d_{i,i-1} P^{-1} \quad (i = 2, \dots, g-1). \tag{7.7}$$

Using (7.3)–(7.7) one notes that many of the relations in sets (4), (5), and (6) (e.g. (4.2)–(4.15)) need only be established for the case $i = 2$, since all other cases follow by repeated conjugation by P . Moreover, certain of these (e.g. (4.2)–(4.8)) are necessarily consequences of set (1) because they involve only the generators of $\Gamma_2^{(1)}$, and defining relations for $\Gamma_2^{(1)}$ are given by set (3), which is a consequence of set (1).

Another useful relation is:

$$d_{i-1,i} = J_g^\varepsilon d_{i,i-1}^{-1} J_g^{-\varepsilon} \quad (\varepsilon = \pm 1, i = 2, \dots, g). \tag{7.8}$$

Using this and (7.1), one finds that certain relations are just conjugates of others by J_g (e.g. (4.14) and (4.13), and many more subtle cases).

The relations which involve the elements d_{kr} , $k > r + 1$, are more difficult to handle than those which involve the elements $d_{i,i-1}$ or $d_{i-1,i}$, however these are made easier if we first use the recursive definition of d_{kr} (Eq. (4.16)) in conjunction with (4.8) and (4.15) to establish that:

$$(P_r \dots P_{k-1}) d_{kr} (P_{k-1} \dots P_r) = d_{r,r+1} \quad (k > r + 1; r, k = 1, \dots, g).$$

It is then usually possible to reduce a relation involving the d_{kr} , where $k > r + 1$, to one involving the $d_{i,i-1}$ and $d_{j,j-1}$ by repeated conjugation by appropriate products of the P_j and by J_g . In this we are aided by noting that:

$$(P_r \dots P_{k-1})^{k-r+1} = 1 \quad (k > r + 1; r, k = 1, \dots, g),$$

$$P_i \rightleftharpoons P_j \quad (|i-j| \geq 2; i, j = 1, \dots, g-1),$$

$$J_g \rightleftharpoons P_i \quad (i = 1, \dots, g-1).$$

In handling the relations in sets (5) and (6), one encounters new elements t_{kl} , $k > l + 1$, defined by Eq. (5.3), which present the same sort of difficulties as the d_{kl} . Again, we reduced these to relations involving the $d_{i,i-1}$ and $d_{j-1,j}$ by repeated use of relations (7) and the commutativity relations (1.1) and of relations (1.2) and (1.3). In any relations involving d_{kl} and d_{rs} (e.g. (4.17)) or t_{kl} and t_{rs} (e.g. (5.7)) it was necessary to consider separately the various possible arrangements of the integers s, r, l, k . We remark that many of these calculations require considerable patience; also, that a more detailed proof is available from the author's private files.

We now go on to consider the relationship between Γ_g and the mapping class group $M(T_g)$ of a closed, orientable 2-manifold T_g of genus g . Let $\pi_1 T_g$ be the fundamental group of T_g , which admits the well-known presentation:

$$\left\langle W_1, \dots, W_{2g}; \prod_{i=1}^g W_{2i-1} W_{2i} W_{2i-1}^{-1} W_{2i}^{-1} = 1 \right\rangle.$$

The group $M(T_g)$ is defined to be $\text{Aut}^+ \pi_1 T_g / \text{Inn} \pi_1 T_g$, where $\text{Aut}^+ \pi_1 T_g$ is the subgroup of $\text{Aut} \pi_1 T_g$ consisting of all automorphisms which map the single defining relator into a conjugate of itself (but not of its inverse). It is known (Eqs. (12), (13), (14) of Ref. [1]) that the generators of $M(T_g)$ can be represented by the automorphisms:

$$\{\tilde{Y}_i, \tilde{U}_i, \tilde{Z}_j; 1 \leq i \leq g, 1 \leq j \leq g-1\}$$

where:

$$\tilde{Y}_i: W_{2i-1} \rightarrow W_{2i-1} W_{2i}^{-1}, \quad (8.1)$$

$$\tilde{U}_i: W_{2i} \rightarrow W_{2i} W_{2i-1}^{-1}, \quad (8.2)$$

$$\tilde{Z}_i: W_{2i-1} \rightarrow W_{2i-1} W_{2i}^{-1} W_{2i+1} W_{2i+2} W_{2i+1}^{-1}, \quad (8.3)$$

$$W_{2i} \rightarrow W_{2i+1} W_{2i+2}^{-1} W_{2i+1}^{-1} W_{2i} W_{2i+1} W_{2i+2} W_{2i+1}^{-1}$$

$$W_{2i+1} \rightarrow W_{2i+1} W_{2i+2}^{-1} W_{2i+1}^{-1} W_{2i} W_{2i+1}.$$

In the above, all subscripts for the W_i 's are modulo $2g$, and it is understood that any generator of $\pi_1 T_g$ which is not given explicitly is mapped onto itself.

The natural homomorphism $\mu: M(T_g) \rightarrow \Gamma_g$ maps each automorphism of $\pi_1 T_g$ into the corresponding automorphism of the abelianized fundamental group. One verifies easily on comparing Eqs. (8) with the matrices in the table that:

$$\mu \tilde{Y}_i = Y_i, \quad (9.1)$$

$$\mu \tilde{U}_i = U_i, \quad (9.2)$$

$$\mu \tilde{Z}_j = Z_j. \quad (9.3)$$

Thus $\tilde{Y}_i, \tilde{U}_i, \tilde{Z}_j$ are the lifts of Y_i, U_i, Z_j to $M(T_g)$ for each $1 \leq i \leq g, 1 \leq j \leq g-1$; moreover the Y_i, U_i, Z_j generate Γ_g , while the $\tilde{Y}_i, \tilde{U}_i, \tilde{Z}_j$ generate $M(T_g)$.

It is now easy to specify the generators of $\ker \mu$: we calculate which of the relators (1.1)–(1.10) lift to $M(T_g)$; those which fail to lift will be the generators of the subgroup of $M(T_g)$ whose normal closure in $M(T_g)$ is $\ker \mu$. Following this procedure, we obtain:

Theorem 2. *Let $\{\tilde{U}_i, \tilde{Y}_i, \tilde{Z}_j; 1 \leq i \leq g, 1 \leq j \leq g-1\}$ be the generators of $M(T_g)$ as specified in Eq. (8). Let $\mu: M(T_g) \rightarrow \Gamma_g$ be the homomorphism specified in Eq. (9). Then, if $g=2$, $\ker \mu$ is generated by the normal closure of:*

$$(Y_1 U_1 Y_1)^4$$

in $M(T_2)$. If $g \geq 3$, $\ker \mu$ is the normal closure of the subgroup generated by:

$$(Y_1 U_1 Y_1)^4,$$

$$(Y_1 U_1 Z_1 U_2 Y_2)^6,$$

$$[Y_1 U_1 Z_1 U_2 Y_2^2 U_2 Z_1 U_1 Y_1, Y_1],$$

$$(Y_3 Y_2 Y_1 Z_1^{-1} U_2 Z_2^{-1} U_2^{-1} Y_2^{-1} U_2 Z_1 U_2 Z_2 Y_2^{-1} U_2^{-1} P_2 Z_1^{-1} P_2^{-1})$$

in $M(T_g)^2$.

It is interesting to note that relations (1.1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9) are defining relations for Γ_2 , while the lifts of relations (1.1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9) are defining relations for $M(T_2)$ [see 1]. Defining relations in $M(T_g)$ are not known if $g \geq 3$. It is also an unsolved problem to determine whether $\ker \mu$ is finitely generated or presented for any $g \geq 2$.

References

1. Birman, J., Hilden, H.: Mapping class groups of closed surfaces as covering spaces. *Ann. of Math. Studies Series No. 66*, Proc. Riemann Surface Theory Conference, Stony Brook, L.I., June 1969.
2. Gold, P.: On the mapping class and symplectic modular group. Ph. D. Thesis, New York University, June 1961.

² The lift of relator (1.8) to $M(T_g)$ is also not a relator if $g \geq 3$, however one finds that in $M(T_g): (Y_1 U_1 Z_1 U_2 Y_2)^6 = (Y_1 U_1 Z_1 U_2 Y_2^2 U_2 Z_1 U_1 Y_1)^2$ for every $g \geq 3$, hence the conjugates of $(Y_1 U_1 Z_1 U_2 Y_2^2 U_2 Z_1 U_1 Y_1)^2$ are included in the normal closure of the elements listed in Theorem 2.

3. Gottschling, E.: Explizite Bestimmung der Randflächen des Fundamentalbereichs der Modulgruppe Zweiten Grades. *Math. Ann.* **138**, 103—124 (1959).
4. Hua, L. K., Reiner, I.: On the generators of the symplectic modular group. *Trans. Am. Math. Soc.* **65**, 415—426 (1949).
5. Klingen, H.: Charakterisierung der Siegelschen Modulgruppe durch ein endliches System definierender Relatimen. *Math. Ann.* **144**, 64—82 (1961).
6. Magnus, W.: Über n -dimensionale Gittertransformationen. *Acta Math.* **64**, 353—367 (1934).
7. — Karass, A., Solitar, D.: Combinatorial group theory. pp. 178, 355—6. London-New York: Interscience 1966.

Dr. J. S. Birman
Department of Mathematics
Stevens Institute of Technology
Hoboken, N. J. 07030, USA

(Received June 26, 1970)