

$GL(n, \mathbb{Z}) :=$ group of $n \times n$ invertible matrices
integer LA

$n=2$

$$a := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, b := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Claim: a & b generate a free subgroup
of $GL(2, \mathbb{Z})$!

Idea: Let's study the action of
 a & b on \mathbb{Z}^2 .

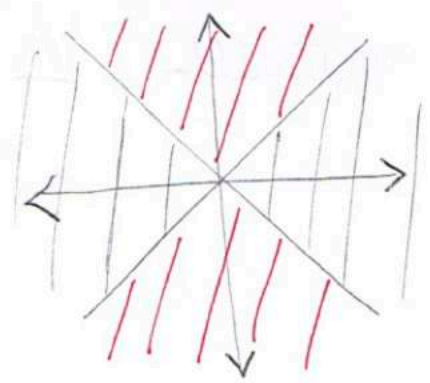
$GL(2, \mathbb{Z}) \curvearrowright \mathbb{Z}^2$ by matrix-vector
multiplication.

eg. $a \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$. (for all $k \in \mathbb{Z}$)

#1. $a^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \dots, a^k = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2k \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

#2. when $|x| < |y|$, $a^k \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x + 2ky \\ y \end{pmatrix}$

and $|x + 2ky| \geq |x| - 2|ky| > |y|$.



* Things in the red zone get sent into things in the black zone, and they stay there too!

#3. b does the opposite, sending things in the black zone to things in the red zone.

#4. How does this help us? PING-PONG!

Recall the definition of a group action

* $I_2 \cdot v = v$ for all $v \in \mathbb{Z}^2$.

\therefore If some word in a & b is equal to I_2 , then that word fixes everything!

Is $a^3 b^2 a$ a relator?

→ Choose any v in the black zone and see that $(a^3 b^2 a) \cdot v$ is in the red zone!

That is, $(a^3 b^2 a) \cdot v \neq v$,

so $a^3 b^2 a \neq I_2$, i.e., $a^3 b^2 a$ is not a relator!

• In fact, $\langle a, b \rangle$ has no relators!



Lemma ("Ping-Pong for two players")

• G generated by a, b .

• $G \curvearrowright X$ nonempty...

• Have $X_a, X_b \subseteq X$: $a^k(X_b) \subseteq X_a$ & $b^k(X_a) \subseteq X_b$

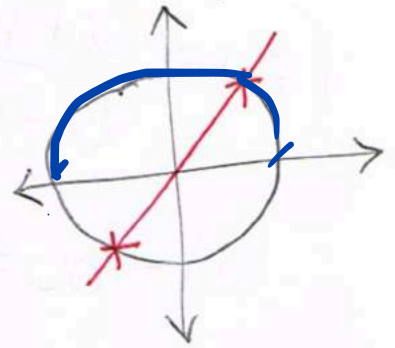
⇒ $G \cong F_2$ free group of rank 2.

$i=1$

B_1

B_2

$\mathbb{R}P :=$ space of 1-dimensional subspaces of \mathbb{R}^2 (as a vector space)
 \cong unit circle in \mathbb{R}^2 with antipodal points identified.



$\mathbb{C}P :=$ space of 1-dimensional subspaces of \mathbb{C}^2 .

\cong "Riemann sphere"

↑ This is a complex manifold!

Möbius Transformations

$$z \mapsto \frac{az+b}{cz+d} \quad \text{where} \quad \frac{ad-bc \neq 0}{1}$$

$$\left(-\frac{d}{c} \mapsto \infty, \quad \infty \mapsto \frac{a}{c} \right)$$

$$* \left(z \mapsto \frac{a'z+b'}{c'z+d'} \right) \circ \left(z \mapsto \frac{az+b}{cz+d} \right) = \left(z \mapsto \frac{(aa'+bc)z + (a'b+bd)}{(ca'+d'c)z + (bc'+d'd)} \right)$$

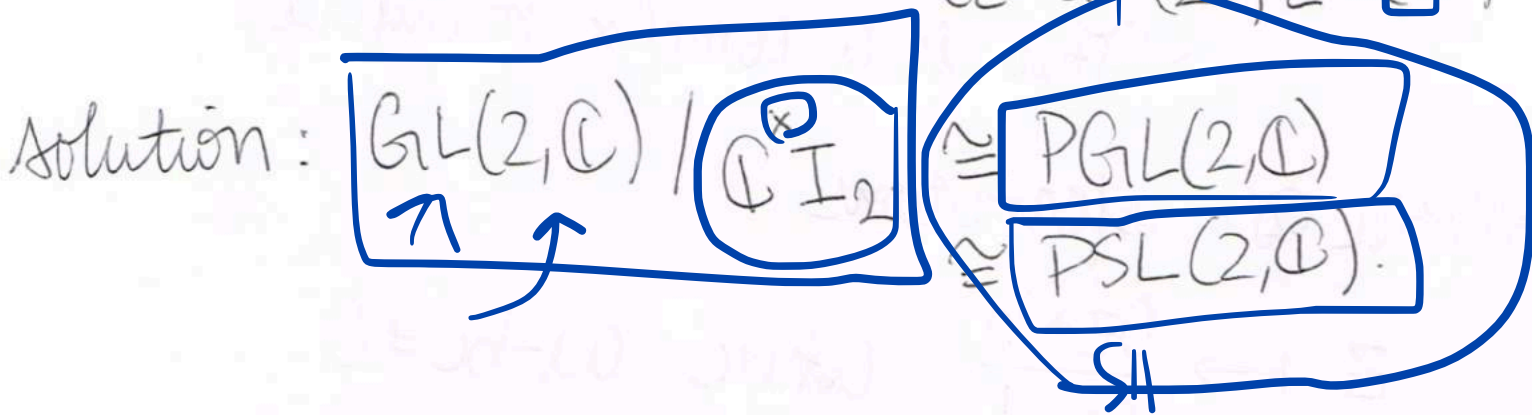
Have a natural identification of Möbius transformations with 2×2 matrices over \mathbb{C} !

$$\left(z \mapsto \frac{az+b}{cz+d} \right) \leftrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$$

$$ad - bc \neq 0 \iff \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in GL(2, \mathbb{C})$$

almost...

not well-defined because $\frac{az+b}{cz+d} = \frac{\lambda az + \lambda b}{\lambda cz + \lambda d}$

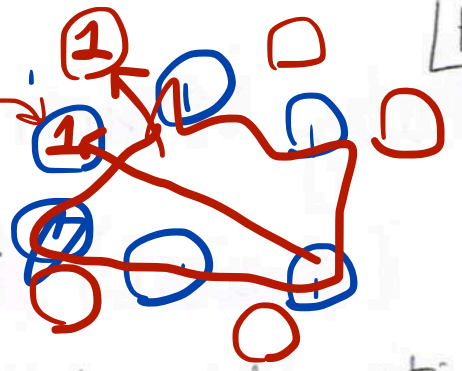
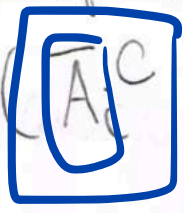


Schottky groups

open disks

- $2g$ disjoint circles (with disjoint interiors) $A_1, B_1, \dots, A_g, B_g$.

T_i Möbius transformation
so that $T_i(A_i^c) \subseteq B_i$



• Since the set of all Möbius transformations is a group, the T_i generate a subgroup of this group, and under the identification with $PSL(2, \mathbb{C})$, a subgroup of $PSL(2, \mathbb{C})$!

↳ such a subgroup is called a "classical Schottky group."

Theorem (Maskit 1967)

theorem [1], and the planarity theorem [3]. A finitely generated Kleinian group G is a Schottky group if and only if G is free, and every element of G other than the identity is loxodromic (hyperbolic transformations are included among the loxodromic).

Baby version:

(classical) Schottky groups are free!

Proof. Apply the Ping-Pong lemma. \square