

Real Analysis

Chapter VI. Mappings of the Inversive Plane

54. Circles and Conformality—Proofs of Theorems

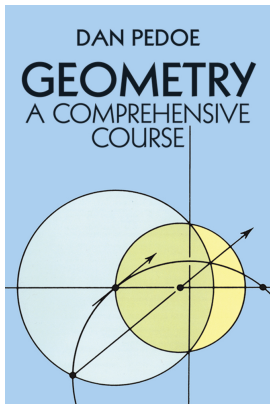


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Theorem 54.1

Theorem 54.1. If a circle \mathcal{C} is mapped onto a circle \mathcal{C}' by a Möbius transformation, then the interior of \mathcal{C} is mapped onto the interior of \mathcal{C}' , or onto the exterior of \mathcal{C}' .

Proof. By Theorem 52.A (see the proof), a Möbius transformation may be written as the composition of a translation, and inversion in the unit circle followed by a reflection in the real axis. With the exception of the inversion ($z' = 1/z$), these mappings map the inside of an “object circle” onto the inside of the “image circle.”

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Proof (continued). So if an inversion is not present in the dissection of the Möbius transformation given by Theorem 52.A (this occurs when $c = 0$ in the usual notation for the transformation), then the interior of \mathcal{C} is mapped to the interior of \mathcal{C}' . If an inversion is present in the dissection (which occurs when $c \neq 0$), then the interior of \mathcal{C} is mapped to the interior of \mathcal{C}' . □

Theorem 54.A

Theorem 54.A. A Möbius transformation of the form $Z = \frac{az + b}{bz + \bar{a}}$ where $|a| < |b|$ maps the unit circle $|z| = 1$ to itself and maps the interior of $|z| = 1$ to itself.

Proof. Consider the “object circle” $|z| = 1$ and its “image circle” $|Z| = 1$ under Möbius transformation $Z = \frac{az + b}{cz + d}$ which maps the interior $|z| < 1$ to the interior $|Z| < 1$. For any $|z|^2 = z\bar{z} = 1$, we need the corresponding value Z to satisfy the condition $|Z|^2 = Z\bar{Z} = 1$. So for $|z| = 1$, we require

$$\frac{(az + b)\overline{(az + b)}}{(cz + d)\overline{(cz + d)}} - 1 = 0,$$

which is equivalent to $(az + b)\overline{(az + b)} - (cz + d)\overline{(cz + d)} = 0$ or $a\bar{a}z\bar{z} + a\bar{b}z + \bar{a}b\bar{z} + b\bar{b} - c\bar{c}z\bar{z} - c\bar{d}z - \bar{c}d\bar{z} - d\bar{d} = 0$ or $z\bar{z}(a\bar{a} - c\bar{c}) + z(a\bar{b} + c\bar{d}) + \bar{z}(\bar{a}b - \bar{c}d) + b\bar{b} - d\bar{d} = 0$.

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$z(\bar{a}b + c\bar{d}) + \bar{z}(\bar{a}b - c\bar{d}) + (a\bar{a} - c\bar{c}) + b\bar{b} - d\bar{d} = 0$. Since this must hold for all z with $|z| = 1$, then we need the coefficients of z and \bar{z} are equal to 0, and the constant is equal to 0:

$$\bar{a}b + c\bar{d} = \bar{a}b - c\bar{d} = 0 \text{ and } a\bar{a} - c\bar{c} + b\bar{b} - d\bar{d} = 0.$$

Since $\overline{\bar{a}b - c\bar{d}} = \bar{a}b + c\bar{d}$ and $a\bar{a} - c\bar{c} + b\bar{b} - d\bar{d} = |a|^2 + |b|^2 - |c|^2 - |d|^2$, then this reduces to two equations:

$$\bar{a}b + c\bar{d} = 0 \text{ and } |a|^2 + |b|^2 = |c|^2 + |d|^2.$$

Set $k = c/\bar{b}$ so that $c = k\bar{b}$. Then condition $\bar{a}b + c\bar{d} = 0$ is equivalent to $\bar{k}bd - \bar{a}b = 0$ so that $d = \bar{a}/\bar{k}$. The condition $|a|^2 + |b|^2 = |c|^2 + |d|^2$ then implies that $|k|^2/|b|^2 + |a|^2/|k|^2 = |a|^2 + |b|^2$ so that we can take $|k| = 1$.

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Theorem 54.A (continued 2)

Proof (continued). Then $1/\bar{k} = k$ and

$$Z = \frac{az + b}{cz + d} = \frac{az + b}{k(\bar{b}z + \bar{a})}, \text{ where } |k| = 1,$$

or equivalently $Z = k \frac{az + b}{\bar{b}z + \bar{a}}$, where $|k| = 1$.

This transformation maps $|z| = 1$ to $|Z| = 1$. Now we need to deal with the “interior” property. The determinant of the transformation is $\Delta = k(|a|^2 - |b|^2)$. If we *choose* $k = 1$ and $\Delta = 1$ (at this stage we no longer have the most general version of such a transformation), the $|a|^2 - |b|^2 = 1$ and so $|b| < |a|$. The point 0 (inside $|z| = 1$) is then mapped to the point b/\bar{a} and since $|b| < |a|$ then this point is inside the circle $|Z| = 1$. Therefore the transformation $Z = \frac{az + b}{\bar{b}z + \bar{a}}$ is a Möbius transformation which maps the circle $|z| = 1$ to the circle $|Z| = 1$ and maps the inside of $|z| = 1$ to the inside of $|Z| = 1$, as claimed. □

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Theorem 54.B

Theorem 54.B. The set of all Möbius transformations mapping $|z| = 1$ to itself and mapping the interior of $|z| = 1$ to itself forms a subgroup of the group \mathcal{B} of all Möbius transformations.

Proof. To show that a nonempty subset of a group is a subgroup, it suffices to show that for all A, C in the set we have AC^{-1} in the set (see my online notes for Modern Algebra 1 [MATH 5410] on [Section 1.2. Homomorphisms and Subgroups](#); notice Theorem 1.2.5).

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[Homomorphisms and Subgroups](#); notice Theorem I.2.5). Notice that for

$Z = e^{i\theta} \left(\frac{z - \alpha}{\bar{\alpha}z - 1} \right) = \frac{e^{i\theta}z - \alpha e^{i\theta}}{\bar{\alpha}z - 1}$ in the set, we have that the inverse

$$z = \frac{-(-1)Z + (-\alpha e^{i\theta})}{(\bar{\alpha})Z - (e^{i\theta})} = \frac{Z - \alpha e^{i\theta}}{\bar{\alpha}Z - e^{i\theta}} = e^{i(-\theta)} \left(\frac{Z - \alpha e^{i\theta}}{\alpha e^{i\theta} Z - 1} \right)$$

is also in the set. That is, the set is closed under inverses.

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Theorem 54.B (continued 1)

Proof (continued). Next, if $A(z) = e^{i\theta_1} \left(\frac{z - \alpha}{\bar{\alpha}z - 1} \right)$ and

$B(z) = e^{i\theta_2} \left(\frac{z - \beta}{\bar{\beta}z - 1} \right)$ are in the set then the composition is

$$\begin{aligned} (AB)(z) &= A(B(z)) = A \left(e^{i\theta_2} \left(\frac{z - \beta}{\bar{\beta}z - 1} \right) \right) = e^{i\theta_1} \left(\frac{e^{i\theta_2} \left(\frac{z - \beta}{\bar{\beta}z - 1} \right) - \alpha}{\bar{\alpha}e^{i\theta_2} \left(\frac{z - \beta}{\bar{\beta}z - 1} \right) - 1} \right) \\ &= e^{i\theta_1} \left(\frac{e^{i\theta_2}(z - \beta) - \alpha(\bar{\beta}z - 1)}{\bar{\alpha}e^{i\theta_2}(z - \beta) - (\bar{\beta}z - 1)} \right) = e^{i\theta_1} \left(\frac{(e^{i\theta_2} - \alpha\bar{\beta})z - \beta e^{i\theta_2} + \alpha}{(\bar{\alpha}e^{i\theta_2} - \bar{\beta})z - \bar{\alpha}\beta e^{i\theta_2} + 1} \right) \\ &= \frac{e^{i\theta_1}}{-e^{i\theta_2}} \left(\frac{(e^{i\theta_2} - \alpha\bar{\beta})z - (\beta e^{i\theta_1} - \alpha)}{(\bar{\beta}e^{-i\theta_2} - \bar{\alpha})z - (e^{-i\theta_2} - \bar{\alpha}\beta)} \right) = e^{i(\theta_1 - \theta_2 + \pi)} \left(\frac{\gamma z - \delta}{\bar{\delta}z - \bar{\gamma}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

where $\gamma = e^{i\theta_2} - \alpha\bar{\beta}$ and $\delta = \beta e^{i\theta_2} - \alpha$.

Theorem 54.B (continued 2)

Proof (continued). Define θ_3 as the argument of $\bar{\gamma}/\gamma$, so that $e^{-i\theta_3}\bar{\gamma}/\gamma = 1$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}(AB)(z) &= e^{i(\theta_1-\theta_2+\pi)} \left(e^{-i\theta_3} \frac{\bar{\gamma}}{\gamma} \right) \left(\frac{\gamma z - \delta}{\bar{\delta} z - \bar{\gamma}} \right) = e^{i(\theta_1-\theta_2-\theta_3+\pi)} \left(\frac{\gamma \bar{\gamma} z - \delta \bar{\gamma}}{\bar{\delta} \gamma z - \gamma \bar{\gamma}} \right) \\ &= e^{i(\theta_1-\theta_2-\theta_3+\pi)} \frac{|\gamma|^2 z - \delta \bar{\gamma}}{\bar{\delta} \gamma z - |\gamma|^2} = e^{i(\theta_1-\theta_2-\theta_3+\pi)} \frac{z - (\delta \bar{\gamma}/|\gamma|^2)}{(\bar{\delta} \bar{\gamma}/|\gamma|^2) z - 1} = e^{i\theta} \left(\frac{z - \alpha}{\bar{\alpha} z - 1} \right)\end{aligned}$$

where $\theta = \theta_1 - \theta_2 - \theta_3 + \pi$ and $\alpha = \delta \bar{\gamma}/|\gamma|^2$. Since 0 is interior to $|z| = 1$ then $B(0)$ is interior to $|z| = 1$. Since $B(0)$ is interior to $|z| = 1$ then $A(B(0)) = e^{i\theta} \delta \bar{\gamma}/|\gamma|^2$ is interior to $|z| = 1$. That is, $|e^{i\theta} \delta \bar{\gamma}/|\gamma|^2| = |\delta \bar{\gamma}/|\gamma|^2| = |\alpha| < 1$. Hence, AB is in the set of transformations and the set is closed under function composition. So for an A, C in the set we have AC^{-1} in the set, and by the theorem mentioned above we have that the set is a subgroup of \mathcal{B} , as claimed. \square

Theorem 54.B (continued 2)

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where $\theta = \theta_1 - \theta_2 - \theta_3 + \pi$ and $\alpha = \delta \bar{\gamma}/|\gamma|^2$. Since 0 is interior to $|z| = 1$ then $B(0)$ is interior to $|z| = 1$. Since $B(0)$ is interior to $|z| = 1$ then $A(B(0)) = e^{i\theta} \delta \bar{\gamma}/|\gamma|^2$ is interior to $|z| = 1$. That is, $|e^{i\theta} \delta \bar{\gamma}/|\gamma|^2| = |\delta \bar{\gamma}/|\gamma|^2| = |\alpha| < 1$. Hence, AB is in the set of transformations and the set is closed under function composition. So for an A, C in the set we have AC^{-1} in the set, and by the theorem mentioned above we have that the set is a subgroup of \mathcal{B} , as claimed. \square