

Needham, Chapter 3, Exercise 26, p. 188.
 G. Palmer, October 17, 2021, 7:30 pm PDT

26. Reconsider (52), p. 178.

$$M_a(z) = \frac{z-a}{\bar{a}z-1} \quad (52)$$

(i) Use (44), p. 170 to show that M_a is elliptic.

By (44), a normalized Möbius transformation is elliptic iff $(a+d)$ is real and $|a+d| < 2$. Re. (52), $a = 1$, $d = -1$.
 Write M_a in matrix format:

$$[M_a] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -a \\ \bar{a} & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

To normalize $[M_a]$, multiply by $\pm 1/\sqrt{ad - bc}$, from p. 150, substituting the coefficients of $[M_a]$ for a, b, c and d . Because the Mathematica .pdf renderer does not typeset the full expression properly, let $A = |a|^2$.

$$[M_a] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 \times (-1) - (-a)\bar{a}}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -a \\ \bar{a} & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{A-1}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -a \\ \bar{a} & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Using normalized values for a and d ,

$$(a + d) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{A-1}} (1 - 1) = 0, \text{ which is real}$$

$$|a + d| = 0 < 2$$

Normalized M_a meets the criteria for an elliptic normalized Möbius transformation.

(ii) Use (43), p. 170 to show that both multipliers are given by $m = -1$.

$$(43) \quad \sqrt{m} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} = a + d$$

Substituting from part (i),

$$\sqrt{m} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} = 0$$

$$\sqrt{m} \left(\sqrt{m} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} \right) = 0$$

$$m + 1 = 0 \implies m = -1$$

(iii) Calculate the matrix product $[M_a][M_a]$, and thereby verify that M_a is involutory.

If M_a is involutory, then

$$[M_a][M_a] = c[\varepsilon], \text{ where } c \text{ is a complex constant.}$$

Continue with normalized values from (i). Again, let $A = |a|^2$.

$$\begin{aligned} [M_a] &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{A-1}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -a \\ \bar{a} & -1 \end{bmatrix} \\ [M_a][M_a] &= \frac{1}{A-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -a \\ \bar{a} & -1 \end{bmatrix}^2 = \frac{1}{A-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1-A & -a+a \\ \bar{a}-\bar{a} & 1-A \end{bmatrix} \\ &= -\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = -[\varepsilon], \text{ where } c = -1 \end{aligned}$$

This is what we wanted.

(iv) Use (27), p. 152 to calculate the fixed points of M_a .

The fixed points of normalized M_a are given as

$$\xi_{\pm} = \frac{1}{2c} ((a-d) \pm \sqrt{(a+d)^2 - 4}) \quad (27)$$

Make substitutions with normalized a , c , and d . Again, let $A = |a|^2$.

$$\xi_{\pm} = \frac{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{A-1}} - \frac{-1}{\sqrt{A-1}}\right) \sqrt{0-4}}{2 \frac{\bar{a}}{\sqrt{A-1}}} = \frac{\frac{2}{\sqrt{A-1}} \pm 2i}{2 \frac{\bar{a}}{\sqrt{A-1}}} = \frac{1}{\bar{a}} (1 \pm i \sqrt{A-1}) = \frac{1}{\bar{a}} (1 \pm \sqrt{1-A}) \quad (\text{i moved inside root})$$

Since $M_a(z)$ is an automorphism of the unit disc D , $(1-A) \geq 0$ and both numerators are real.

(v) Show that the result of the previous part is in accord with figure [38].

Figure [38] shows that $\xi_- = \frac{1}{\bar{\xi}_+}$. We would like to show that $\xi_- \bar{\xi}_+ = 1$. Use $A = \text{Abs}[a]^2$. Substitute into ξ_+ and $\bar{\xi}_+$ from part (iv), where the subscripts correspond to the signs on the roots,

$$\bar{\xi}_+ = \frac{1}{a} \left(1 + \sqrt{1 - A} \right)$$

$$\xi_- \bar{\xi}_+ = \frac{1}{a} \left(1 - \sqrt{1 - A} \right) \frac{1}{a} \left(1 + \sqrt{1 - A} \right) = \frac{1}{a^2} (1 - (1 - A)) = \frac{A}{a^2} = 1$$

This shows that the fixed points in part (iv) accord with the constraint $\xi_- = \frac{1}{\bar{\xi}_+}$ shown in figure [38].