

**Exercise 1.** For an integer  $N \geq 1$  let

$$\Gamma(N) = \{A \in \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) \mid A \equiv I \pmod{N}\}$$

and denote by  $\bar{\Gamma}(N)$  the image of the group  $\Gamma(N)$  in  $\mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) \subset \mathrm{Aut}(H)$ , where  $H$  denotes Poincaré's upper half-plane. Let also

$$p_N : H \rightarrow H/\bar{\Gamma}(N) = Y(N)$$

denote the quotient map and quotient Riemann surface.

**a)** Show that  $\Gamma(N)$  is a finite index normal subgroup of  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$ , and that it contains  $-I$  iff  $N \leq 2$ . Deduce that  $\Gamma(N)$  is isomorphic to  $\bar{\Gamma}(N)$  for  $N > 2$ .

**b)** Show that there is a unique map  $\varphi_N : Y(N) \rightarrow Y(1)$  such that  $\varphi_N \circ p_N = p_1$ .

**c)** Show that the (finite) quotient group

$$G_N = \bar{\Gamma}(1)/\bar{\Gamma}(N) \simeq \Gamma(1)/(\{\pm I\} \cdot \Gamma(N))$$

acts on  $Y(N)$ , and that there is an isomorphism  $i_N : Y(N)/G_N \simeq Y(1)$  such that  $i_N \circ q_N = \varphi_N$ , where  $q_N : Y(N) \rightarrow Y(N)/G_N$  denotes the quotient map.

**d)** Show that  $\Gamma(2)$  is of index 6 in  $\Gamma(1) = \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z})$  (hint : show that the "reduction mod 2" morphism  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  is surjective<sup>1</sup>).

**e)** Show that  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$  is isomorphic to the symmetric group  $S_3$ .

**f)** Deduce that  $\varphi_2 : Y(2) \rightarrow Y(1)$  is a proper holomorphic map of degree 6.

**g)** Let

$$D = \{z \in H \mid |\mathrm{Re}(z)| \leq 1, |z \pm 1/2| \geq 1/2\}.$$

Show that for all  $z \in H$ , there exists  $\gamma \in \bar{\Gamma}(2) \subset \mathrm{Aut}(H)$  such that  $\gamma(z) \in D$ . In words,  $D$  meets every orbit of  $\bar{\Gamma}(2)$  on  $H$  (hint : maximize  $\mathrm{Im}(\gamma(z))$  for  $\gamma \in \bar{\Gamma}(2)$ , then use translations and the two elements  $z \mapsto z/(\pm 2z + 1)$  of  $\bar{\Gamma}(2)$ ).

**h)** Show that  $D$  also meets all the orbits in  $H$  of the subgroup  $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle$  of  $\bar{\Gamma}(2)$  generated by

$$\alpha = T^2 : z \mapsto z + 2, \quad \beta = ST^{-2}S : z \mapsto z/(2z + 1),$$

where  $S : z \mapsto -1/z$  and  $T : z \mapsto z + 1$  are in  $\bar{\Gamma}(1)$  (hint : re-use the proof of previous question).

**i)** Show that the elements of

$$E = \{1, S, T, TS, TST, (TS)^2\} \subset \bar{\Gamma}(1)$$

have distinct classes in  $\bar{\Gamma}(1)/\bar{\Gamma}(2) \simeq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})$ , and represent all elements of this group.

**j)** Let

$$D_1 = \{z \in H \mid |\mathrm{Re}(z)| \leq 1/2, |z| \geq 1\}$$

denote the "standard" fundamental domain of  $\bar{\Gamma}(1)$  in  $H$ . Show that

$$D_2 = \bigcup_{g \in E} gD_1$$

is a weak fundamental domain of  $\Gamma(2)$  in  $H$ . Here by weak fundamental domain we mean that all  $z$  in a dense open subset of  $D_2$  are the unique point of their  $\bar{\Gamma}(2)$ -orbit in  $D_2$

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1. More generally,  $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) \rightarrow \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})$  is surjective, but here it is very easy to verify directly

**k)** Let

$$D'_1 = \{z \in H \mid 0 \leq \operatorname{Re}(z) \leq 1/2, |z| \geq 1\}.$$

It the right half of the "standard" fundamental domain of  $\bar{\Gamma}(1)$ . Introduce the (antiholomorphic) reflections in the sides of  $D'_1$

$$s_0 : z \mapsto -\bar{z}, \quad s_1 : z \mapsto 1/\bar{z}, \quad s_2 : z \mapsto 1 - \bar{z},$$

which fix respectively the points with  $\operatorname{Re}(z) = 0$ ,  $|z| = 1$ ,  $\operatorname{Re}(z) = 1/2$ . Then  $D'_1 \cup s_0 D'_1$  is the above standard fundamental domain  $D_1$  of  $\bar{\Gamma}(1)$ , and  $s_0 s_1 = S$ ,  $s_2 s_0 = T$ ,  $s_2 s_1 = TS$ .

Show that  $D$  and  $D_2$  are both unions of images of  $D'_1$  by twelve compositions of the maps  $s_0, s_1, s_2$ .

**l)** Deduce that  $D$  is also a (weak) fundamental domain for  $\bar{\Gamma}(2)$  (study the decompositions of  $D$  and  $D_2$  into images of  $D'_1$  obtained in the previous question, and move some pieces by elements of  $\bar{\Gamma}(2)$  to go from  $D_2$  to  $D$ ).

**m)** Deduce that  $\alpha, \beta$  generate the group  $\bar{\Gamma}(2)$  (hint : choose  $z_0 \in D$  which the unique point of  $d$  in its orbit under  $\bar{\Gamma}(2)$ , and for any  $\gamma \in \bar{\Gamma}(2)$ , find  $g \in \langle \alpha, \beta \rangle$  such that  $g(\gamma(z_0)) = z_0$ ; then use that  $\bar{\Gamma}(2)$  acts freely on  $H$  — it has no torsion, see previous exercise sheet).

**n)** Consider the action of  $\bar{\Gamma}(2)$  on  $P^1(\mathbb{Q}) = \mathbb{Q} \cup \{\infty\}$ . Show that it has three orbits, represented by  $0, 1$  and  $\infty$ .