## Modular Curves as Riemann

## Surfaces

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1 Topology

2 Charts

3 Elliptic Points

4 Cusps

5 Modular Curves and Modularity

## Topology on Modular Curves

Let $\Gamma \subset S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ be a congruence subgroup. The corresponding modular curve is the set of orbits

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The natural surjection

$$
\pi: \mathbb{H} \rightarrow Y(\Gamma), \quad \pi(\tau)=\Gamma \tau
$$

gives $Y(\Gamma)$ the quotient topology.

Here are some claims:
(1) $\pi$ is an open mapping.

Because for every $U$ open in $\mathbb{H}$, one has

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(2) $\pi\left(U_{1}\right) \cap \pi\left(U_{2}\right)=\varnothing$ in $Y(\Gamma) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \Gamma\left(U_{1}\right) \cap U_{2}=\varnothing$ in $\mathbb{H}$.

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(6) $Y(\Gamma)$ is second countable.

## Theorem (1)

The action of $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ on $\mathbb{H}$ is properly discontinuous, i.e, given any $t_{1}, t_{2} \in \mathbb{H}$ there exist neighborhoods $U_{1}$ of $t_{1}$ and $U_{2}$ of $t_{2}$ in $\mathbb{H}$ such that

$$
\forall \gamma \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}), \text { if } \gamma\left(U_{1}\right) \cap U_{2} \neq \varnothing \text { then } \gamma\left(t_{1}\right)=t_{2}
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## Corollary

For any congruence subgroup $\Gamma$ of $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$, the modular curve $Y(\Gamma)$ is Hausdorff.

## Proof.

Let $\pi\left(\tau_{1}\right) \neq \pi\left(\tau_{2}\right)$ be 2 distinct points in $Y(\Gamma)$. Take neighborhoods $U_{1}$ of $\tau_{1}, U_{2}$ of $\tau_{2}$ as in the previous theorem. Since $\gamma\left(\tau_{1}\right) \neq \tau_{2}$ for all $\gamma \in \Gamma$, then $\Gamma\left(U_{1}\right) \cap U_{2}=\varnothing$ in $\mathbb{H}$. This implies $\pi\left(U_{1}\right) \cap \pi\left(U_{2}\right)=\varnothing$.

To prove the theorem 1 , let $U_{1}^{\prime}$ (resp. $U_{2}^{\prime}$ ) be any neighborhood of $t_{1}$ (resp. $t_{2}$ ) with compact closure in $\mathbb{H}$.

## Lemma (1)

The inequality

$$
\sup \left\{\operatorname{Im}(\gamma(t)): \gamma \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}) \text { has bottom row }(c, d), t \in U_{1}^{\prime}\right\}<\inf \left\{\operatorname{Im}(t): t \in U_{2}^{\prime}\right\}
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holds true for all but finitely many integer pairs $(c, d)$ with $\operatorname{gcd}(c, d)=1$.

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Remark This lemma implies that:
If $\gamma \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ satisfying $\gamma\left(U_{1}^{\prime}\right) \cap U_{2}^{\prime} \neq \varnothing$ then the bottom row of $\gamma$ has only finitely many choices.

## Proof of lemma 1.

Observe that

$$
\operatorname{Im}(\gamma(t))=\frac{\operatorname{Im}(t)}{|c t+d|^{2}} \leq \frac{\operatorname{Im}(t)}{c^{2} \operatorname{Im}(t)^{2}}, \forall \gamma=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
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So as $c \rightarrow \infty, \operatorname{Im}(\gamma(t)) \rightarrow 0$. Let $2 \varepsilon=\inf \left\{\operatorname{Im}(t): t \in U_{2}^{\prime}\right\}>0$, there exists $N>0$ such that whenever $|c|>N, \operatorname{Im}(\gamma(t))<\varepsilon$ for all $t \in U_{1}^{\prime}$. It implies that the inequality holds true for all integer pairs $(c, d)$ with $\operatorname{gcd}(c, d)=1$ and $|c|>N$.

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From above, we deduces that the inequality holds true whenever either $|c|>N$ or $|d|>M$.

Lemma (2)
For an integer pair $(c, d)$ with $\operatorname{gcd}(c, d)=1$, the number of
$\gamma \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ with bottom row $(c, d)$ such that $\gamma\left(U_{1}^{\prime}\right) \cap U_{2}^{\prime} \neq \varnothing$
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## Proof of lemma 2.

Observe that the set of matrices $\gamma \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ with bottom row $(c, d)$ are

$$
\left\{\left[\begin{array}{ll}
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\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{ll}
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where $(a, b)$ is any particular pair such that $a d-b c=1$.

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where $(a, b)$ is any particular pair such that $a d-b c=1$. Thus

$$
\gamma\left(U_{1}^{\prime}\right) \cap U_{2}^{\prime}=\left(\left[\begin{array}{ll}
a & b \\
c & d
\end{array}\right] U_{1}^{\prime}+k\right) \cap U_{2}^{\prime}
$$

is empty for all but finitely many $\gamma$ with bottom row $(c, d)$.

Then $F=\left\{\gamma \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}): \gamma\left(U_{1}^{\prime}\right) \cap U_{2}^{\prime} \neq \varnothing, \gamma\left(t_{1}\right) \neq t_{2}\right\}$ is a finite set.

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For each $\gamma \in F$, there exists disjoint neighborhoods $U_{1, \gamma}$ of $\gamma\left(t_{1}\right)$ and $U_{2, \gamma}$ of $t_{2}$ in $\mathbb{H}$. Define

$$
\begin{gathered}
U_{1}=U_{1}^{\prime} \cap\left(\bigcap_{\gamma \in F} \gamma^{-1}\left(U_{1, \gamma}\right)\right) \\
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$$

Take any $\gamma \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ such that $\gamma\left(U_{1}\right) \cap U_{2} \neq \varnothing$. To show $\gamma\left(t_{1}\right)=t_{2}$, it suffices to show $\gamma \notin F$. If $\gamma \in F$, then

$$
\gamma^{-1}\left(U_{1, \gamma}\right) \supset U_{1} \quad \text { and } \quad U_{2, \gamma} \supset U_{2}
$$

so $U_{1, \gamma} \cap U_{2, \gamma} \supset \gamma\left(U_{1}\right) \cap U_{2} \neq \varnothing$, contradiction.

To summarize
(1) $\pi: \mathbb{H} \rightarrow Y(\Gamma)$ is open.
(2) $Y(\Gamma)$ is connected.
(3) $Y(\Gamma)$ is Hausdorff.
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is a homeomorphism.
Then we can define

$$
\varphi: \pi(U) \rightarrow U \subset \mathbb{C}, \quad \varphi=\left(\left.\pi\right|_{U}\right)^{-1}
$$

as a local coordinate at $\pi(t)$.

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## Example

Consider $\Gamma=S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}), t=i$ and $\gamma=\left[\begin{array}{cc}0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0\end{array}\right]$. Then $\gamma(i)=\frac{-1}{i}=i$.

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$$
\delta \cdot \gamma \cdot \delta^{-1}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}
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which acts as 180 -degree rotation about 0 in the unit disc. We observe that any neighborhood about 0 contains pair of $\left[\begin{array}{cc}-i & 0 \\ 0 & i\end{array}\right]$-equivalent points.

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Then we deduce that any neighborhood of $i$ contains pairs of $\gamma$-equivalent points. Thus cannot biject to a neighborhood of $\pi(i)$ in $Y\left(S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})\right)$.


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## Definition

For each $t \in \mathbb{H}$, the isotropy subgroup of $t$ is

$$
\Gamma_{t}=\{\gamma \in \Gamma: \gamma(t)=t\}
$$

A point $t \in \mathbb{H}$ is an elliptic point for $\Gamma$ if $\Gamma_{t}$ is nontrivial as a group of transformations. The corresponding point $\pi(t)$ on $Y(\Gamma)$ is also called elliptic.

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Thus each point $t \in \mathbb{H}$ has an associated positive integer

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h_{t}=\left|\frac{\{ \pm I\} \Gamma_{t}}{\{ \pm I\}}\right|= \begin{cases}\left|\Gamma_{t}\right| / 2 & \text { if }-I \in \Gamma_{t} \\ \left|\Gamma_{t}\right| & \text { if }-I \notin \Gamma_{t}\end{cases}
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This $h_{t}$ is called the period of $t$, and $h_{t}>1$ only for elliptic points. $h_{t}$ correctly counts the $t$-fixing transformations.

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(1) If $t \in \mathbb{H}$ and $\gamma \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ then the period of $t$ under $\boldsymbol{\Gamma}=$ the period of $\gamma(t)$ under $\gamma \Gamma \gamma^{-1}$.
In particular, $h_{t}$ depends only on $\Gamma t$. So the period is well-defined on $Y(\Gamma)$.

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In particular, $h_{t}$ depends only on $\Gamma t$. So the period is well-defined on $Y(\Gamma)$.
(2) If $\Gamma$ is normal in $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ then all points of $Y(\Gamma)$ over a point of $Y\left(S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})\right.$ have the same period.

If $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}) t_{1}=S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}) t_{2}$ then $\Gamma t_{1}$ and $\Gamma t_{2}$ have the same period.

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(1) Use the "straightening map" $\delta_{t}=\left[\begin{array}{cc}1 & -t \\ 1 & t\end{array}\right] \in G L_{2}(\mathbb{C})$ to send $t$ to 0 and $\bar{t}$ to $\infty$.

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(2) The isotropy subgroup of 0 in the conjugated transformation group is the conjugate of the isotropy subgroup of $t$, i.e

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\left(\delta_{t}\{ \pm I\} \Gamma \delta_{t}^{-1}\right)_{0} /\{ \pm I\}=\delta_{t}\left(\{ \pm I\} \Gamma_{t} /\{ \pm I\}\right) \delta_{t}^{-1}
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(5) The map $\delta_{t}$ is "straightening" neighborhoods of $t$ to neighborhoods of 0 in the sense that after the map, equivalent points are spaced apart by fixed angles.


Figure 2.2. Local coordinates at an elliptic point

Now given any point $\pi(t) \in Y(\Gamma)$, take a neighborhood $U$ of $t$ such that

$$
\forall \gamma \in \Gamma \text {, if } \gamma(U) \cap U \neq \varnothing \text { then } \gamma \in \Gamma_{t} .
$$

Such a neighborhood exists by theorem 1, and has no elliptic points except possibly $t$.

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Such a neighborhood exists by theorem 1, and has no elliptic points except possibly $t$. Define $\psi: U \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ to be $\psi=\rho \circ \delta$ where $\delta=\delta_{t}, \rho$ is the power function $\rho(z)=z^{h}$, with $h=h_{t}$. Let $V=\psi(U)$, then $V$ is open.

Now given any point $\pi(t) \in Y(\Gamma)$, take a neighborhood $U$ of $t$ such that

$$
\forall \gamma \in \Gamma \text {, if } \gamma(U) \cap U \neq \varnothing \text { then } \gamma \in \Gamma_{t} .
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Claim: For any $t_{1}, t_{2} \in U$,

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\pi\left(t_{1}\right)=\pi\left(t_{2}\right) \Leftrightarrow \psi\left(t_{1}\right)=\psi\left(t_{2}\right)
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$$

To see this, observe that
$\pi\left(t_{1}\right)=\pi\left(t_{2}\right) \Leftrightarrow t_{1} \in \Gamma t_{2} \Leftrightarrow t_{1} \in \Gamma_{t} t_{2} \Leftrightarrow \delta\left(t_{1}\right) \in\left(\delta \Gamma_{t} \delta^{-1}\right)\left(\delta\left(t_{2}\right)\right) \Leftrightarrow \delta\left(t_{1}\right)=\mu_{h}^{d}\left(\delta\left(t_{2}\right)\right)$,
for some integer $d, \mu_{h}=e^{2 \pi i / h}$ since $\delta \Gamma_{t} \delta^{-1}$ is a cyclic transformation group of $h$ rotations. So

$$
\pi\left(t_{1}\right)=\pi\left(t_{2}\right) \Leftrightarrow\left(\delta\left(t_{1}\right)\right)^{h}=\left(\delta\left(t_{2}\right)\right)^{h} \Leftrightarrow \psi\left(t_{1}\right)=\psi\left(t_{2}\right) .
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commutes. Also $\varphi$ surjects since $\psi$ surjects, and $\varphi: \pi(U) \rightarrow V$ is a homeomorphism. So $\varphi$ is a local coordinate and $\pi(U)$ is a coordinate neighborhood about $\pi(t)$ in $Y(\Gamma)$.

## Charts



## Holomorphicity of Transition Maps

Given overlapping $\pi\left(U_{1}\right)$ and $\pi\left(U_{2}\right)$. Let

$$
V_{1,2}=\varphi_{1}\left(\pi\left(U_{1}\right) \cap \pi\left(U_{2}\right)\right), \quad V_{2,1}=\varphi_{2}\left(\pi\left(U_{1}\right) \cap \pi\left(U_{2}\right)\right), \quad \varphi_{2,1}=\varphi_{2} \circ \varphi_{1}^{-1} \mid V_{1,2}
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$$



For each $x \in \pi\left(U_{1}\right) \cap \pi\left(U_{2}\right)$ it suffices to check holomorphy in some neighborhood of $\varphi_{1}(x)$ in $V_{1,2}$.

Write $x=\pi\left(t_{1}\right)=\pi\left(t_{2}\right)$ with $t_{1} \in U_{1}, t_{2} \in U_{2}$ and $t_{2}=\gamma\left(t_{1}\right)$ for some $\gamma \in \Gamma$. Let $U_{1,2}=U_{1} \cap \gamma^{-1}\left(U_{2}\right)$, then $\pi\left(U_{1,2}\right)$ is a neighborhood of $x$ and so $\varphi_{1}\left(\pi\left(U_{1,2}\right)\right)$ is a neighborhood of $\varphi_{1}(x)$ in $V_{1,2}$.

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We'll prove for the case $\varphi_{1}(x)=0$. So the first straightening map is $\delta_{1}=\delta_{t_{1}}$. Let $q=\varphi_{1}\left(x^{\prime}\right) \in \varphi_{1}\left(\pi\left(U_{1,2}\right)\right)$, one has

$$
q=\varphi_{1}\left(\pi\left(t^{\prime}\right)\right)=\psi_{1}\left(t^{\prime}\right)=\left(\delta_{1}\left(t^{\prime}\right)\right)^{h_{1}}, \quad \text { for some } t^{\prime} \in U_{1,2}
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$$

where $h_{1}$ is the period of $t_{1}$.
Let $\tilde{t_{2}} \in U_{2}$ be the point such that $\psi\left(\tilde{t_{2}}\right)=0$ and let $h_{2}$ be its period. Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
\varphi_{2,1}(q) & =\varphi_{2}\left(x^{\prime}\right) \\
& =\varphi_{2}\left(\pi\left(t^{\prime}\right)\right) \\
& =\varphi_{2}\left(\pi\left(\gamma\left(t^{\prime}\right)\right)\right. \\
& =\psi_{2}\left(\gamma\left(t^{\prime}\right)\right) \quad \text { which is defined since } \gamma\left(t^{\prime}\right) \in U_{2} \\
& =\left(\delta_{2}\left(\gamma\left(t^{\prime}\right)\right)\right)^{h_{2}} \\
& =\left(\left(\delta_{2} \gamma \delta_{1}^{-1}\right)\left(\delta_{1}\left(t^{\prime}\right)\right)\right)^{h_{2}} \\
& =\left(\left(\delta_{2} \gamma \delta_{1}^{-1}\right)\left(q^{1 / h_{1}}\right)\right)^{h_{2}} .
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$$

The calculation shows that if $h_{1}=1$ then the transition map is clearly holomorphic.

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Recall from the construction that the elliptic point (if exists) must map to 0 under the straightening map. So $t_{2}=\tilde{t_{2}}$ and then $h_{2}=h_{1}$.

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We have the following diagrams

$$
0 \stackrel{\delta_{1}^{-1}}{\longmapsto} t_{1} \stackrel{\gamma}{\longmapsto} t_{2} \stackrel{\delta_{2}}{\longmapsto} 0 \quad, \quad \infty \stackrel{\delta_{1}^{-1}}{\longmapsto} \overline{t_{1}} \stackrel{\gamma}{\longmapsto} \overline{t_{2}} \stackrel{\delta_{2}}{\longmapsto} \infty .
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This shows $\delta_{2} \gamma \delta_{1}^{-1}=\left[\begin{array}{ll}\alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \beta\end{array}\right]$ for some nonzero $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$.

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The formula for the transition map in this case is

$$
\varphi_{2,1}(q)=\left(\left[\begin{array}{cc}
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The general case is quite similar.

## Elliptic Points

##  <br> Elliptic Points

In this section we will show the remaining proposition: the isotropy subgroup $\Gamma_{t}$ is finite and cyclic. Then we will discover some properties of elliptic points of a congruence subgroup $\Gamma$. It turns out that the set of elliptic points is quite "small".

## Example

Consider the case $Y(1)=S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}) \backslash \mathbb{H}$. Let $\mathcal{D}$ be the set

$$
\mathcal{D}=\{t \in \mathbb{H}:|\operatorname{Re}(t)| \leq 1 / 2,|t| \geq 1\} .
$$



Figure 2.3. The fundamental domain for $\mathrm{SL}_{2}(\mathbf{Z})$

The map $\pi: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow Y(1)$ surjects, where $\pi$ is the natural projection $\pi(t)=S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}) t$.

## Lemma

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The surjection $\pi: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow Y(1)$ is not injective. The translation $\left[\begin{array}{ll}1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1\end{array}\right]: t \mapsto t+1$ identifies the two boundaries half-lines, and the inversion $\left[\begin{array}{cc}0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0\end{array}\right]: t \mapsto-1 / t$ identifies the two halves of the boundary arc. But these boundary identifications are the only ones.

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## Lemma

Suppose $t_{1} \neq t_{2}$ are distinct points in $\mathcal{D}$ such that $t_{2}=\gamma\left(t_{1}\right)$ for some $\gamma \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$. Then either
(1) $\operatorname{Re}\left(t_{1}\right)= \pm 1 / 2$ and $t_{2}=\mp 1$, or
(2) $\left|t_{1}\right|=1$ and $t_{2}=-1 / t_{1}$.

Returning to elliptic points, suppose $t \in \mathbb{H}$ is fixed by a nontrivial transformation $\gamma=\left[\begin{array}{ll}a & b \\ c & d\end{array}\right] \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$. Then

$$
a t+b=c t^{2}+d t .
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Since $t \in \mathbb{H}$, we can show that $c \neq 0$ and $|a+d|<2$. Then $a+d \in\{-1,0,1\}$.

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(a-x)(d-x)-b c=x^{2}-(a+d) x+1
$$

So the characteristic polynomial is $x^{2}+1$ or $x^{2} \pm x+1$.

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Then one of the following holds

$$
\gamma^{3}=I \quad, \quad \gamma^{4}=I \quad, \quad \gamma^{6}=I
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Then $\gamma$ has order $1,2,3,4$ or 6 as a matrix. Observe that orders 1 and 2 give the identity transformations. The following proposition will discribe all nontrivial fixing transformations.

Proposition
Let $\gamma \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$.
(1) If $\gamma$ has order 3 then $\gamma$ is conjugate to $\left[\begin{array}{cc}0 & 1 \\ -1 & -1\end{array}\right]^{ \pm 1}$ in $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$.
(2) If $\gamma$ has order 4 then $\gamma$ is conjugate to $\left[\begin{array}{cc}0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0\end{array}\right]^{ \pm 1}$ in $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$.
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## Corollary

(1) The elliptic points for $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ are $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}) i$ and $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}) \mu_{3}$ where $\mu_{3}=e^{2 \pi i / 3}$.

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0 & -1 \\
1 & 0
\end{array}\right]\right\rangle \quad \text { and } \quad S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})_{\mu_{3}}=\left\langle\left[\begin{array}{cc}
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$$

(4) For each elliptic point $t$ of $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ the isotropy subgroup $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})_{t}$ is finite cyclic.

## Corollary

Let $\Gamma$ be a congruence subgroup of $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$. The modular curve $Y(\Gamma)$ has finitely many elliptic points. For each elliptic point $t$ of $\Gamma$, the isotropy subgroup $\Gamma_{t}$ is finite cyclic.

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## Proof.

Write

$$
S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})=\bigsqcup_{j=1}^{d} \Gamma \gamma_{j}
$$

then the set of elliptic points of $Y(\Gamma)$ is a subset of

$$
E_{\Gamma}=\left\{\Gamma \gamma_{j}(i), \Gamma \gamma_{j}\left(\mu_{3}\right): 1 \leq j \leq d\right\},
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$$

which is clearly finite.
For each $t \in \mathbb{H}$, observe that

$$
\Gamma_{t} \text { is a subgroup of } S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})_{t}
$$

Then $\Gamma_{t}$ is finite cyclic.

## Cusps



## Compactify a Modular Curve



Figure 2.3. The fundamental domain for $\mathrm{SL}_{2}(\mathbf{Z})$

# Cusps 



## Compactify a Modular Curve



Figure 2.3. The fundamental domain for $\mathrm{SL}_{2}(\mathbf{Z})$
The picture suggests that the modular curve $Y(\Gamma)$ can be compactified by adjoining all the cusps.

Let $\mathcal{H}^{*}=\mathbb{H} \cup \mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}$ and take the extended quotient

$$
X(\Gamma)=\Gamma \backslash \mathcal{H}^{*}=Y(\Gamma) \cup \Gamma \backslash(\mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\})
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The points $\Gamma s$ in $\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}$ are also called the cusps of $X(\Gamma)$.

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The points $\Gamma s$ in $\Gamma \backslash \mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}$ are also called the cusps of $X(\Gamma)$.
Remark The action of $\Gamma$ on $\mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}$ is induced from the action of $G L_{2}^{+}(\mathbb{Q})$ (the group of $2 \times 2$ matrices with positive determinant and rational entries) on $\mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}$ given by

$$
\left[\begin{array}{ll}
a & b \\
c & d
\end{array}\right]\left(\frac{m}{n}\right)=\frac{a \frac{m}{n}+b}{c \frac{m}{n}+d}
$$

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Remark The action of $\Gamma$ on $\mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}$ is induced from the action of $G L_{2}^{+}(\mathbb{Q})$ (the group of $2 \times 2$ matrices with positive determinant and rational entries) on $\mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}$ given by

$$
\left[\begin{array}{ll}
a & b \\
c & d
\end{array}\right]\left(\frac{m}{n}\right)=\frac{a \frac{m}{n}+b}{c \frac{m}{n}+d} .
$$

## Remark

(1) $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ acts transitively on $\mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}$.
(2) The isotropy subgroup of $\infty$ in $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ is the translations

$$
S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})_{\infty}=\left\{ \pm\left[\begin{array}{cc}
1 & m \\
0 & 1
\end{array}\right]: m \in \mathbb{Z}\right\}
$$

Let $\mathcal{H}^{*}=\mathbb{H} \cup \mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}$ and take the extended quotient

$$
X(\Gamma)=\Gamma \backslash \mathcal{H}^{*}=Y(\Gamma) \cup \Gamma \backslash(\mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\})
$$

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## Lemma

The modular curve $X(1)=S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}) \backslash \mathcal{H}^{*}$ has one cusp. For any subgroup $\Gamma$ of $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ the modular curve $X(\Gamma)$ has finitely many cusps.

# Cusps 



## Topology on $X(\Gamma)$

The usual topology on $\mathcal{H}^{*}$ contains too many points of $\mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}$ in each neighborhood to make the quotient $X(\Gamma)$ Hausdorff. So we need to define a new topology on $\mathcal{H}^{*}$.

Cusps


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Adjoin to the usual open sets in $\mathbb{H}$ more sets in $\mathcal{H}^{*}$ to serve a base of neighborhoods of the cusps, the sets

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\alpha\left(\mathcal{N}_{M} \cup\{\infty\}\right): M>0, \alpha \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})
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and take the resulting topology on $\mathcal{H}^{*}$.
Remark Under this topology, each $\gamma \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ is a homeomorphism of $\mathcal{H}^{*}$.


Figure 2.5. Neighborhoods of $\infty$ and of some rational points

Giving $X(\Gamma)$ the quotient topology and extending natural projection $\pi: \mathcal{H}^{*} \rightarrow X(\Gamma)$, we have:

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Let $x_{1} \neq x_{2} \in X(\Gamma)$. Consider the cases:
(1) $x_{1}=\Gamma t_{1}, x_{2}=\Gamma t_{2}$ for some $t_{1}, t_{2} \in \mathbb{H}:$ Done.

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(2) $x_{1}=\Gamma s_{1}, x_{2}=\Gamma t_{2}$ where $s_{1} \in \mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}, t_{2} \in \mathbb{H}$ : Let $U_{2}$ be any neighborhood of $t_{2}$ in $\mathbb{H}$ with compact closure $K$. We have the inequality

$$
\operatorname{Im}(\gamma(t)) \leq \max \{\operatorname{Im}(t), 1 / \operatorname{Im}(t)\} \quad \text { for } t \in \mathbb{H} \text { and } \gamma \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}) .
$$

This implies for $M$ large enough, $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}) K \cap \mathcal{N}_{M}=\varnothing$. Let $\alpha \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ such that $s_{1}=\alpha(\infty)$, then $\alpha\left(\mathcal{N}_{M} \cup\{\infty\}\right)$ is a neighborhood of $s_{1}$ and $\alpha\left(\mathcal{N}_{M} \cup\{\infty\}\right) \cap U_{2}=\varnothing$.

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Let $\alpha \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ such that $s_{1}=\alpha(\infty)$, then $\alpha\left(\mathcal{N}_{M} \cup\{\infty\}\right)$ is a neighborhood of $s_{1}$ and $\alpha\left(\mathcal{N}_{M} \cup\{\infty\}\right) \cap U_{2}=\varnothing$.
(3) $x_{1}=\Gamma s_{1}, x_{2}=\Gamma s_{2}$ where $s_{1}, s_{2} \in \mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}$ : Let $\alpha_{1}, \alpha_{2} \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ such that $s_{1}=\alpha_{1}(\infty), s_{2}=\alpha_{2}(\infty)$.
Let $U_{1}=\alpha_{1}\left(\mathcal{N}_{2} \cup\{\infty\}\right), U_{2}=\alpha_{2}\left(\mathcal{N}_{2} \cup\{\infty\}\right)$. Then we claim that $\pi\left(U_{1}\right)$ and $\pi\left(U_{2}\right)$ are disjoint.


Figure 2.3. The fundamental domain for $\mathrm{SL}_{2}(\mathbf{Z})$
To see this, suppose that $\exists \gamma \in \Gamma: \gamma \alpha_{1}\left(t_{1}\right)=\alpha_{2}\left(t_{2}\right)$, then $\alpha_{2}^{-1} \gamma \alpha_{1}$ maps $t_{1}$ to $t_{2}$.


Figure 2.3. The fundamental domain for $\mathrm{SL}_{2}(\mathbf{Z})$
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$$
\alpha_{2}^{-1} \gamma \alpha_{1}= \pm\left[\begin{array}{cc}
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0 & 1
\end{array}\right], \quad \text { for some } m \in \mathbb{Z}
$$

Thus $\alpha_{2}^{-1} \gamma \alpha_{1}$ fixes $\infty$, consequently $\gamma\left(s_{1}\right)=s_{2}$, contradiction. Then $X(\Gamma)$ is Hausdorff.

Suppose $\mathcal{H}^{*}=O_{1} \cup O_{2}$ is a disjoint union of open subsets. Intersect with the connected sed $\mathbb{H}$ to conclude that $O_{1} \supset \mathbb{H}$ and so $O_{2} \subset \mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}$. But then $O_{2}$ is not open unless it is empty. Thus $\mathcal{H}^{*}$ is connected and so is its continuous image $X(\Gamma)$.

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$$

Note that

$$
\mathcal{H}^{*}=S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}) \mathcal{D}^{*}=\bigcup_{j} \Gamma \gamma_{j}\left(\mathcal{D}^{*}\right), \text { where the } \gamma_{j} \text { are coset representatives. }
$$

Then

$$
x(\Gamma)=\bigcup_{j} \pi\left(\gamma_{j}\left(\mathcal{D}^{*}\right)\right)
$$

Since each $\gamma_{j}$ is continuous, $\pi$ is continuous and $\left[S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z}): \Gamma\right]<\infty, X(\Gamma)$ is compact.

## Cusps



## Charts about Cusps

For each cusp $s \in \mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}$, define the width of $s$ to be

$$
h_{s}=\left|\frac{S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})_{s}}{\{ \pm I\} \Gamma_{s}}\right| .
$$

This notion is dual to the period of an elliptic point, being inversely propotional to the size of an isotropy subgroup.

Claims:
(1) If $s \in \mathbb{Q} \cup\{\infty\}$ and $\gamma \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ then the width of $\gamma(s)$ under $\gamma \Gamma \gamma^{-1}=$ the width of $s$ under $\Gamma$.
In particular, the width $h_{s}$ depends only on $\Gamma s$, making the width is well-defined on $X(\Gamma)$.

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In particular, the width $h_{s}$ depends only on $\Gamma s$, making the width is well-defined on $X(\Gamma)$.
(2) If $\Gamma$ is normal in $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ then all cusps of $X(\Gamma)$ have the same width.
(3) If $\delta \in S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ takes $s$ to $\infty$, then

$$
h_{s}=\left|\frac{S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})_{\infty}}{\left(\delta\{ \pm I\} \Gamma \delta^{-1}\right)_{\infty}}\right| .
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Moreover,

$$
\left(\delta\{ \pm I\}\left\ulcorner\delta^{-1}\right)_{\infty}=\{ \pm I\}\left\langle\left[\begin{array}{cc}
1 & h_{s} \\
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$$



Figure 2.6. Local coordinates at a cusp


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Define $U=U_{s}=\delta^{-1}\left(\mathcal{N}_{2} \cup\{\infty\}\right)$ and define $\psi=\rho \circ \delta$, where $\rho=e^{2 \pi i z / h}, h=h_{s}$.


Figure 2.6. Local coordinates at a cusp

Define $U=U_{s}=\delta^{-1}\left(\mathcal{N}_{2} \cup\{\infty\}\right)$ and define $\psi=\rho \circ \delta$, where $\rho=e^{2 \pi i z / h}, h=h_{s}$. Let $V=i m \psi$ then $V$ is an open subset of $\mathbb{C}$, we have

$$
\psi: U \rightarrow V, \quad \psi(t)=e^{2 \pi i \delta(t) / h}
$$

Claim: For all $t_{1}, t_{2} \in U, \pi\left(t_{1}\right)=\pi\left(t_{2}\right) \Leftrightarrow \psi\left(t_{1}\right)=\psi\left(t_{2}\right)$.

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Indeed,

$$
\pi\left(t_{1}\right)=\pi\left(t_{2}\right) \Leftrightarrow t_{1}=\gamma\left(t_{2}\right) \Leftrightarrow \delta\left(t_{1}\right)=\left(\delta \gamma \delta^{-1}\right)\left(\delta\left(t_{2}\right)\right)
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for some $\gamma \in \Gamma$. Since $\delta\left(t_{1}\right)$ and $\delta\left(t_{2}\right)$ both lie in $\mathcal{N}_{2} \cup\{\infty\}, \delta \gamma \delta^{-1}$ must be a translation. So

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\delta \gamma \delta^{-1} \in \delta \Gamma \delta^{-1} \cap S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})_{\infty}=\left(\delta \Gamma \delta^{-1}\right)_{\infty} \subset\{ \pm I\}\left\langle\left[\begin{array}{ll}
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0 & 1
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$$

Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
\pi\left(t_{1}\right)=\pi\left(t_{2}\right) & \Leftrightarrow \delta\left(t_{1}\right)=\delta\left(t_{2}\right)+m h \text { for some } m \in \mathbb{Z} \\
& \Leftrightarrow \psi\left(t_{1}\right)=\psi\left(t_{2}\right) .
\end{aligned}
$$

Therefore, there exists a bijection $\varphi: \pi(U) \rightarrow V$ such that the following diagram commutes


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The coordinate neighborhood about $\pi(s)$ in $X(\Gamma)$ is $\pi(U)$, and the coordinate map is $\varphi: \pi(U) \rightarrow V$, a homeomorphism.

# Cusps 



## Holomorphicity of Transition Maps

It suffices to consider 2 following cases.
Case 1 Suppose $U_{1} \subset \mathbb{H}$ has the corresponding straightening map $\delta_{1}=\delta_{t_{1}} \in G L_{2}(\mathbb{C})$ where $t_{1}$ has period $h_{1}$ and suppose $U_{2}=\delta_{2}^{-1}\left(\mathcal{N}_{2} \cup\{\infty\}\right)$.

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For each $x \in \pi\left(U_{1}\right) \cap \pi\left(U_{2}\right)$, write $x=\pi\left(\tilde{t}_{1}\right)=\pi\left(t_{2}\right)$ for $\tilde{t}_{1} \in U_{1}, t_{2} \in U_{2}$.

# Cusps 

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$$
\varphi_{2,1}(q)=\exp \left(2 \pi i \delta_{2} \gamma \delta_{1}^{-1}\left(q^{1 / h_{1}}\right) / h_{2}\right) .
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If $h_{1}=1$ : OK.

# Cusps 

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$$

If $h_{1}=1$ : OK.
If $h_{1}>1$, then $t_{1} \notin U_{1,2}$, else the point $\delta_{2}\left(\gamma\left(t_{1}\right)\right) \in \mathcal{N}_{2}$ is also an elliptic point for $\Gamma$, which is contradiction since $\mathcal{N}_{2}$ contains no elliptic points. Then $t_{1} \notin U_{1,2}$ so $0 \notin \varphi_{1}\left(\pi\left(U_{1,2}\right)\right)$. The transition map is holomorphic.

Case 2 Suppose $U_{i}=\delta_{i}^{-1}\left(\mathcal{N}_{2} \cup\{\infty\}\right)$ with $\delta_{i}: s_{i} \mapsto \infty, i=1,2$.

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$$
t_{1}=\gamma\left(t_{2}\right) \Rightarrow \delta_{1}\left(t_{1}\right)=\delta_{1} \gamma \delta_{2}^{-1}\left(\delta_{2}\left(t_{2}\right)\right)
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t_{1}=\gamma\left(t_{2}\right) \Rightarrow \delta_{1}\left(t_{1}\right)=\delta_{1} \gamma \delta_{2}^{-1}\left(\delta_{2}\left(t_{2}\right)\right)
$$

Since $\delta_{1} \gamma \delta_{2}^{-1}$ moves some point in $\mathcal{N}_{2} \cup\{\infty\}$ to another, it must be a translation $\pm\left[\begin{array}{cc}1 & m \\ 0 & 1\end{array}\right]$.
In this case $\gamma\left(s_{1}\right)=s_{2}$, so $h_{1}=h_{2}=h$. Using this, we can compute

$$
\varphi_{2,1}(q)=e^{2 \pi i m / h} q .
$$

This is clearly holomorphic.

To summarize, for any congruence subgroup $\Gamma$ of $S L_{2}(\mathbb{Z})$ the extended quotient $X(\Gamma)$ is a compact Riemann surface.

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Problems:
(1) Compute the genus of $X(\Gamma)$.
(2) Study the meromorphic functions and differentials on $X(\Gamma)$.

# Modular Curves and Modularity 

Modular Curves and Modularity

## Theorem (Modularity Theorem)

Let $E$ be a complex elliptic curve with $j(E) \in \mathbb{Q}$. Then for some positive integer $N$ there exists a surjective holomorphic function of compact Riemann surfaces from the modular curve $X_{0}(N)$ to the elliptic curve $E$,

$$
X_{0}(N) \longrightarrow E
$$

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

