

Fractals and Kleinian groups

Shapes in Action 16th Oct 2020



Program schedule for Oct 16th

- **13:15 Some principles of Fractal geometry**
- 14:00 Break
- 14:15 Kleinian groups and orbifolds
- 15:00 Break
- 15:15 Schottky groups and orbifolds



Heptagonal tiling by Severi Virolainen















14.10.2020 4

Daina Taimina and a hyperbolic soccer ball

A workshop at Heureka 2017









Design Factory 2017

Self similar waves by Elias Seeve



14.10.2020 7

Wacław Franciszek Sierpiński 1882-1969







A self similar process in Sierpiński gasket (1916)





The Chaos Game (Barnsley)







14.10.2020 10

Cathedral Anagni (Italy) 1104





Fig. 6 SS. Giovanni e Paolo (13th century), Rome



Santa Maria in Cosmedin, Rome





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14.10.2020 13

Escher's studies of Sierpinski gasket-type patterns



On twelfth-century pulpit of Ravello Cathedral, 1923



Sierpiński Carpet and generalizations







Karl Menger 1902-1985 and his sponge 1926







Menger sponge via business card origami







Three interlinked Level One Menger Sponges, by Margaret Wertheim.

Jeannine Mosely 66048 business cards



14.10.2020 18

Niels Fabian Helge von Koch (1870-1924) and his snowflake (1904)







Evolution à la Mandelbrot





Canopy, by Craig Harris 2008





Gaston Maurice Julia 1893-1978







Iteration of planar rational functions





... and (geometric) inversion (=reflection) in a circle

Planar rational maps are compositions of similarities, powers and inversions.





Some (amazing!) properties of reflection wrt a circle





Pierre Joseph Louis Fatou 1878-1929

- 'Fatou set'
- Holomorphic dynamics





Benoit Mandelbrot 1924-2010

Mandelbrot coined (70's) the word 'fractal' to explain self similar objects

Fractus= fractured, broken







Mandelbrot set



Parameter space for $C=(C_x,C_y)$ under f: $f(r,\alpha)=(r^2,2\alpha) + C$

Look at C=0 once more!



C=-1, Julia/Fatou set





Douady's rabbit (Adrien Douady 1935-2006)





14.10.2020 30

Dragon c=0.360284+0.100376i





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Dendrite and Cantor dust





14.10.2020 32

Higher dimensional analogues of complex polynomials (joint work in progress with G. Martin)





Kleinian groups



Ex: pairing of circles under Möbius transformations





An artistic interpretation by Jos Leys





Fractals in approximating natural forms

Change from mechanical/geometrical to organic by using mathematical algorithm




Aristid Lindenmayer 1925-1989 (L-systems) in plant biology

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Artistic inventions of fractals a bit earlier and its reproduction by a process called Iterated Function System IFS.

[•]Driving Rain' by Ando Hiroshige (1797-1858)





[•]A Thousand Pictures of the Sea' by Katsushika Hokusai (1817-1859) and IFS again







Frank Lloyd Wright (1867-1959)

Palmer house in Michigan (1950-51)





Fallingwater, Pennsylvania (1937) and Li Cheng (960-1127): Solitary Temple







African fractals: Ron Eglash

http//www.ted.com/talks/ron_eglash_on_african_fractals.html





Felix Christian Klein (1849-1925)

- Erlangen program (1872): Proposal for a radical extension of the view of symmetry
- Geometry = study of the properties of a space which are invariant under a given group of transformations
- Ingredients to study geometry:
 - Objects (triangles, circles, fractals,...)
 - Movements (not just rigid motions of the Euclidean space)
 - => Much wider setups by using the *group* concept





Groups, tiling, inversions and stereographic projection in one picture

- Octahedral symmetry (*432) on the sphere
- 120° degree rotation wrt the line
- Tiles in the plane move accordingly via stereographic projection

=> Induces (new) symmetry for the plane



Circles and lines in the plane correspond circles on the sphere via stereographic projection







Symmetries generated by Möbius maps

All compositions of

- Translations
- Rotations
- Reflections wrt lines and circles
- Scalings

Note: These induce bijective maps (via stereographic projection) on the sphere !

August Ferdinand Möbius (1790-1868)





Emphasis on geometrical and dynamical effects of Möbius maps

- Angle preserving maps (=conformal)
- Map circles to circles or lines
- Map lines to circles or lines
- At most two fixed points





What patterns are simultaneously symmetrical under two Möbius maps ?

Step 1: Circle pairing

- Map outside of D_A onto the inside of D_a
- Induces an attracting fixed point inside D_a and a repelling fixed point inside D_A
- Iterating a shrinks D_a to smaller disks containing the attracting fixed point
- Denote A=a⁻¹
- Disk D_x will then contain attracting fixed point of x





a: Map outside D_A to inside D_a



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A= a^{-1} maps outside D_a inside D_A







Step 2: Two pairs of disk pairs

a: Map *outside* of D_A onto the *inside* of D_a **b:** Map *outside* of D_B onto the *inside* of D_b

- \Rightarrow Schottky group of two generators:
- All possible compositions of a and b and their inverses A=a⁻¹ and B=b⁻¹





Friedrich Schottky (1851-1935)

14.10.2020 51

a: Map outside D_A to inside D_a







Step2: Move&scale D_A to D_a

52

b: Map outside D_B to inside D_b



Step1: Inversion wrt D_B



Step2: Move&scale D_B to D_b



15.10.2020 53

First a and then b







- Limit set = the collection of those points that belong to disks at every level
- What is the *symmetrical tiling* of the group ?
- What is the *orbifold of this tiling?*













14.10.2020 56

A Schottky group with 3 generators

- Orbifold is a genus 3 surface
- Limit set (=chaotic set) is 'fractal dust'
- Compare to Cantor middle third







Felix Hausdorff (1868-1942) and his dimension (1919)

- Idea of a d-dimensional measurement where d is not an integer
- Basic properties
 - Breaking an object apart into pieces keeps the measure of the whole equal to the sum of the parts
 - Expanding/contracting object by factor k changes the size by factor k^d
 - d=1 length, d=2 area, d=3 volume





Hausdorff dimension of the Cantor middle third set



x_N = amount of dust in each level N segment => x_N=2x_{N+1}

Expanding a level N+1 subsegment by a factor 3 expands the dust in level N+1 to dust in level N (self similarity) $=> x_N = 3^d x_{N+1}$

=> $3^{d}=2$ => $d = \log(2)/\log(3) \approx 0.63$



Indra's necklace

From dust to necklace

- Symmetry generated by two maps as before
- Choose tangential circles



Limit circle

- Continuous loop
- Quasicircle
- Quasifuchsian group
 (Lazarus Fuchs, 1833 1902)





Fricke and Klein, 1897





Building the orbifold with a cusp













Apollonian gasket







Plane vs Sphere Curt McMullen $d \approx 1,306688^{14.10.2020}$

Apollonius meet Sierpinski





Classical construction of Apollonian circles

- 3 tangent circles bound an *ideal triangle* (zero angles)
- unique *incircle* tangent to the given 3 outer circles
- Note: construction on the sphere does not distinguish inside from outside

Y	







Lines interpreted as circles going through infinity





The glowing gasket

- Generating 4 solid red disks as Schottky pairs
- Traditional construction activated by the dual (yellow) circles

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Strip gasket and other variants

In fact they are all the same up to conjugation by a Möbius transformation....







Soddy circles (Nature 1936)

Four circles to the kissing come. The smaller are the benter. The bend is just the inverse of The distance from the center. Though their intrigue left Euclid dumb There's now no need for rule of thumb. Since zero bend's a dead straight line And concave bends have minus sign, The sum of the squares of all four bends Is half the square of their sum.



$$\left(\frac{1}{a} + \frac{1}{b} + \frac{1}{c} + \frac{1}{d}\right)^2 = 2\left(\frac{1}{a^2} + \frac{1}{b^2} + \frac{1}{c^2} + \frac{1}{d^2}\right)$$

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Frederick Soddy (1877-1956)

- Chemistry Nobel 1921
- Packing spherical atoms

Note: Formula known also for Rene Descartes (1643) etc.

Apollonian circles in Japanese Sangaku tradition (Edo period 1603-1868)




Random Apollonian packings in physics

- Models for foams and powders
- Ex: Number of bubbles of radius bigger than r in the foam $\sim r^d$





Tiling related to the glowing gasket







Building the corresponding orbifold....













Two triply punctured spheres





3D variants of Apollonian gasket

• By just turning circles to spheres





http://www.josleys.com/













Genuinely 3D Kleinian group interpretations







Apollonian sphere packing

- Tetrahedral base
- d ≈ 2,473946





Approximation by 40 000 spheres





Dance of spirals and Jordan curve theorem



Aalto University RHS generated by two maps, circle pairs not known



Playing with the parameters





(iii) $t_a = 1.888 + 0.05i$, $t_b = 2$





Caroline Series







14.10.2020 86

Major reference for stuff related to Kleinian groups!

Webropol feedback

Please remember to answer ! Extra 2 points for giving feedback ©

Please also note the forthcoming Math & Arts Minor courses <u>https://into.aalto.fi/display/ensivuaineet2020/Aalto+Math+and+Arts</u>

UWAS-C1400 Spatial structures (period II) MS-E1000 Crystal Flowers in Halls of Mirrors: Mathematics meets Art and Architecture (periods III-V)

