Chapter 13

Hyperbolic Analytic Geometry

13.1 Saccheri Quadrilaterals

Recall the results on *Saccheri quadrilaterals* from our previous chapter. Also recall that a convex quadrilateral three of whose angles are right angles is called a **Lambert quadrilateral**.



- In a Saccheri quadrilateral the summit angles are congruent, and
- In a Saccheri quadrilateral the line joining the midpoints of the base and the summit—called the **altitude**—is perpendicular to both.
- In a Saccheri quadrilateral the summit angles are acute.
- The fourth angle of a Lambert quadrilateral is acute.
- The side adjacent to the acute angle of a Lambert quadrilateral is greater than its opposite side.
- In a Saccheri quadrilateral the summit is greater than the base and the sides are greater than the altitude.

13.2 More on Quadrilaterals

Now we need to consider a Saccheri quadrilateral which has base b, sides each with length a, and summit with length c. We know that c > a, but we would like to know

- How much bigger?
- How are the relative sizes related to the lengths of the sides?

Theorem 13.1 For a Saccheri quadrilateral

$$\begin{array}{c}
\mathbf{A'} & \mathbf{B'} \\
a \\
a \\
\theta \\
\mathbf{A} & b \\
\mathbf{B} \\
\end{array}$$

$$\sinh \frac{c}{2} = (\cosh a) \cdot (\sinh \frac{b}{2}).$$

Figure 13.1: Saccheri Quadrilateral

PROOF: Compare Figure 13.1. Applying the Hyperbolic Law of Cosines from Theorem 12.2, we have

$$\cosh c = \cosh a \cosh d - \sinh a \sinh d \cos \theta. \tag{13.1}$$

From Theorem 12.1 we know that

$$\cos(\theta) = \sin(\frac{\pi}{2} - \theta) = \frac{\sinh a}{\sinh d}$$
$$\cosh d = \cosh a \cosh b$$

Using these in Equation 13.1 we eliminate the variable d and have

$$\cosh c = \cosh^2 a \cosh b - \sinh^2 a$$
$$= \cosh^2 a (\cosh b - 1) + 1$$

Now, we need to apply the identity

$$2\sinh^2(\frac{x}{2}) = \cosh x - 1,$$

and we have the formula.

Corollary 6 Given a Lambert quadrilateral, if c is the length of a side adjacent to the acute angle, a is the length of the other side adjacent to the acute angle, and b is the length of the opposite side, then

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13.3. COORDINATE GEOMETRY IN THE HYPERBOLIC PLANE

Two segments are said to be *complementary segments* if their lengths x and x^* are related by the equation

$$\Pi(x) + \Pi(x^*) = \frac{\pi}{2}.$$

The geometric meaning of this equation is shown in the following figure, Figure 13.2. These lengths then are complementary if the angles of parallelism associated to the segments are complementary angles. This is then an "ideal Lambert quadrilateral" with the fourth vertex an ideal point Ω .



Figure 13.2: Complementary Segments

If we apply the earlier formulas for the angle of parallelism to these segments, we get

$$\sinh x^* = \operatorname{csch} x$$
$$\cosh x^* = \coth x$$
$$\tanh x^* = \operatorname{sech} x$$
$$\tanh \frac{x^*}{2} = e^{-x}.$$

Theorem 13.2 (Engel's Theorem) There is a right triangle with sides and angles as shown in Figure 13.3 if and only if there is a Lambert quadrilateral with sides as shown is Figure 13.3. Note that PQ is a complementary segment to the segment whose angle of parallelism is $\angle A$.

13.3 Coordinate Geometry in the Hyperbolic Plane

In the hyperbolic plane choose a point O for the origin and choose two perpendicular lines through O - OX and OY. In the Poincaré disk model we will use the Euclidean center of our defining circle for this point O. We need to fix coordinate systems on each of these two perpendicular lines. By this we need to choose a positive and a negative direction on each line and a unit segment for each. There are other coordinate systems that can be used, but this is standard. We will call these the *u*-axis and the *v*-axis. For any point $P \in \mathscr{H}^2$ let Uand V be the feet of P on these axes, and let u and v be the respective coordinates of U



Figure 13.3: Engel's Theorem

and V. Then the quadrilateral $\Box UOVP$ is a Lambert quadrilateral. If we label the length of UP as w and that of VP as z, then by the Corollary to Theorem 13.1 we have

 $\tanh w = \tanh v \cdot \cosh u$ $\tanh z = \tanh u \cdot \cosh v$

Let $r = d_h(OP)$ be the hyperbolic distance from O to P and let θ be a real number so that $-\pi < \theta < \pi$. Then

$$\tanh u = \cos \theta \cdot \tanh r$$
$$\tanh v = \sin \theta \cdot \tanh r.$$

We also set

$$x = \tanh u, \quad y = \tanh v$$
$$T = \cosh u \cosh w, \ X = xT, \ Y = yT.$$

The ordered pair $\{OX, OY\}$ is called a **frame** with **axes** OX and OY. With respect to this frame, we say the point P has

- axial coordinates (u, v),
- polar coordinates (r, θ) ,
- Lobachevskii coordinates (u, w),
- Beltrami coordinates (x, y),
- Weierstrass coordinates (T, X, Y).

If a point has Beltrami coordinates (x, y) and $t = 1 + \sqrt{1 - x^2 - y^2}$, put

$$p = x/t$$
 $q = y/t$,

then (p,q) are the **Poincaré coordinates** of the point.

In Figure 13.5 we have:

$$u = 0.78$$

 $v = 0.51$
 $w = 0.72$
 $z = 0.94$
 $r = 1.10$
 $\theta = 35.67^{\circ} = 0.622$ radians

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Figure 13.4: Coordinates in Poincaré Plane

From which it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \tanh u = 0.653, & y &= \tanh v = 0.470 \\ T &= \cosh u \cosh w = 1.677 & X &= xT = 1.095 \\ Y &= yT &= 0.788 & t &= 1 + \sqrt{1 - x^2 - y^2} = 1.594 \\ p &= x/t &= 0.409 & q &= y/t &= 0.295. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the coordinates for P are:

- axial coordinates (u, v) = (0.78, 0.51),
- polar coordinates $(r, \theta) = (1.10, 0.622),$
- Lobachevskii coordinates (u, w) = (0.78, 0.72),
- Beltrami coordinates (x, y) = (0.653, 0.470),
- Weierstrass coordinates (T, X, Y) = (1.677, 1.095, 0.788).
- Poincaré coordinates (p,q) = (0.409, 0.295)

Every point has a unique ordered pair of Lobachevskii coordinates, and, conversely, every ordered pair of real numbers is the pair of Lobachevskii coordinates for some unique point. In Lobachevskii coordinates

- 1. for $a \neq 0$, u = a is the equation of a line;
- 2. for $a \neq 0$, w = a is the equation of a hypercycle;
- 3. $e^{-u} = \tanh w$ is an equation of the line in the first quadrant that is horoparallel to both axes.
- 4. $e^u = \cosh w$ is an equation of the horocycle with radius \overrightarrow{OX} .



Figure 13.5: P in the Poincaré Disk

Thus, a line does not have a linear equation in Lobachevskii coordinates, and a linear equation does not necessarily describe a line.

Every point has a unique ordered pair of axial coordinates. However, not every ordered pair of real numbers is a pair of axial coordinates. Let U and V be points on the axes with $V \neq 0$. Now the perpendiculars at U and V do not have to intersect. It is easy to see that they might be horoparallel or hyperparallel, especially by looking in the Poincaré model. If the two lines are limiting parallel (horoparallel) then that would make the segments OUand OV complementary segments. It can be shown then that these perpendiculars to the axes at U and V will intersect if and only if $|u| < |v|^*$. It then can be shown that (u, v) are the axial coordinates of a point if and only if $\tanh^2 u + \tanh^2 v < 1$.

Lemma 13.1 With respect to a given frame

- i) Every point has a unique ordered pair of Beltrami coordinates, and (x, y) is an ordered pair of Beltrami coordinates if and only if $x^2 + y^2 < 1$.
- ii) If the point P_1 has Beltrami coordinates (x_1, y_1) and point P_2 has Beltrami coordinates (x_2, y_2) , then the distance $d_h(P_1P_2) = P_1P_2$ is given by the following formulæ:

$$\cosh P_1 P_2 = \frac{1 - x_1 x_2 - y_1 y_2}{\sqrt{1 - x_1^2 - y_1^2} \sqrt{1 - x_2^2 - y_2^2}}$$
$$\tanh P_1 P_2 = \frac{\sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 - (x_1 y_2 - x_2 y_1)^2}}{1 - x_1 x_2 - y_1 y_2}$$

- iii) Ax + By + C = 0 is an equation of a line in Beltrami coordinates if and only if $A^2 + B^2 > C^2$, and every line has such an equation.
- iv) Given an angle $\angle PQR$ and given that the Beltrami coordinates of P are (x_1, y_1) , of Q are (x_2, y_2) , and of R are (x_3, y_3) , then the cosine of this angle is

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given by

$$\begin{aligned} \cos(\angle PQR) &= \\ \frac{(x_2 - x_1)(x_3 - x_1) + (y_2 - y_1)(y_3 - y_1) - (x_2y_1 - x_1y_2)(x_3y_1 - x_1y_3)}{\sqrt{(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 - (x_1y_2 - x_2y_1)^2}\sqrt{(x_3 - x_1)^2 + (y_3 - y_1)^2 - (x_1y_3 - x_3y_1)^2}} \end{aligned}$$

v) If Ax + By + C = 0 and Dx + Ey + F = 0 are equations of two intersecting line in Beltrami coordinates and θ is the angle formed by their intersection, then

$$\cos \theta = \pm \frac{AD + BE - CF}{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 - C^2}\sqrt{D^2 + E^2 - F^2}}$$

In particular the lines are perpendicular if and only if AD + BE = CF.

vi) If (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) are the Beltrami coordinates of two distinct points, let $t_1 = \sqrt{1 - x_1^2 - y_1^2}$ and $t_2 = \sqrt{1 - x_2^2 - y_2^2}$. Then the midpoint of the segment joining the two points has Beltrami coordinates

$$\left(\frac{x_1t_2+x_2t_1}{t_1+t_2}, \frac{y_1t_2+y_2t_1}{t_1+t_2}\right)$$

and the perpendicular bisector of the two points has an equation

$$(x_1t_2 - x_2t_1)x + (y_1t_2 - y_2t_1)y + (t_1 - t_2) = 0.$$

vii) If $A_1x + B_1y + C_1 = 0$ and $A_2x + B_2y + C_2 = 0$ are equations of lines in Beltrami coordinates and if $A_1B_2 = A_2B_1$, then the two lines are hyperparallel.

viii) Every cycle has an equation in Beltrami coordinates that is of the form

$$\sqrt{1 - x^2 - y^2} = ax + by + c.$$

- 1. The cycle is a circle if and only if $-1 < a^2 + b^2 c^2 < 0$ and c > 0.
- 2. The cycle is a horocycle if and only if $a^2 + b^2 c^2 = 0$ and c > 0.
- 3. The cycle is a hypercycle if and only if $a^2 + b^2 c^2 > 0$.

In Poincaré coordinates (p,q)

$$C((p^2 + q^2) + 2Ap + 2Bq + C = 0$$

is an equation of a line if and only if $A^2 + B^2 > C^2$, and every line has such an equation.

The following is a representation of graph paper in the Poincaré disk model. Each line is 1/4 unit apart. The distances are measured along the u and v axes.



Figure 13.6: Poincaré Disk Model Graph Paper



Figure 13.7: Poincaré Half Plane Model Graph Paper