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PETER B. SHALEN

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A positive integer m will be called a **finitistic order** for an element γ of a group Γ if there exist a finite group G and a homomorphism $h : \Gamma \rightarrow G$ such that $h(\gamma)$ has order m in G . It is shown that up to conjugacy, all but finitely many elements of a given finitely generated, torsion-free Kleinian group admit a given integer $m > 2$ as a finitistic order.

1. Introduction

I will be concerned with the following natural algebraic notion:

Definition 1.1. Let γ be an element of a group Γ . A positive integer m will be called a *finitistic order* for γ if there exist a finite group G and a homomorphism $h : \Gamma \rightarrow G$ such that $h(\gamma)$ has order m in G .

1.2. To illustrate this definition, consider the case in which Γ is a free abelian group and γ is a nontrivial element of Γ . In this case there is an infinite cyclic direct summand C of Γ containing γ , and hence there is a homomorphism $h_0 : \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ such that $k := h_0(\gamma) > 0$. Given any positive integer m , the quotient homomorphism $\mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}/mk\mathbb{Z}$ maps k onto an element of order m . Hence any positive integer m is a finitistic order for γ in this case.

1.3. On the other hand, if γ is an element of finite order d in a group Γ , it is clear that only divisors of d can be finitistic orders for γ . In particular, the only finitistic order for the identity element $1 \in \Gamma$ is 1. Likewise, if a group Γ is not residually finite [Magnus 1969], then by definition it contains at least one element γ which is in the kernel of every homomorphism from Γ to a finite group; the only finitistic order for such an element γ is 1.

By a *Kleinian group* I will mean a discrete subgroup of $\mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C})$. Such a group may be cocompact; it may be non-cocompact but have finite covolume; or it may have infinite covolume. The main result of this paper says that up to conjugacy,

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all but finitely many elements of a given finitely generated, torsion-free Kleinian group admit a given integer $m > 2$ as a finitistic order. More precisely:

Theorem 1.4. *Let Γ be a finitely generated, torsion-free Kleinian group. Let $m > 2$ be an integer, and let X denote the set of all elements of Γ for which m is a finitistic order. Then $\Gamma - X$ is a union of finitely many conjugacy classes.*

It is interesting to compare [Theorem 1.4](#) with some of the results proved in [[Allman and Hamilton 1999](#)]. It follows from Lemmas 2 and 3 of that reference, together with [Proposition 4.2](#) of the present paper, that if Γ is a finitely generated, torsion-free Kleinian group and m is any positive integer, then for every element γ of Γ there is an integer divisible by m which is a finitistic order for γ . Note that this result is neither stronger nor weaker than [Theorem 1.4](#).

The most novel ingredient in the proof of [Theorem 1.4](#) is [Proposition 2.7](#) below, which is proved using a deep number-theoretic result, due to Siegel and Mahler, about the finiteness of the set of solutions to the S -unit equation in a number field. [Proposition 2.7](#) implies that for an arbitrary integer $m > 2$ and an arbitrary finitely generated subgroup Γ of $\mathrm{SL}_2(E)$, where E is a number field, the traces of those elements of Γ that are not of finitistic order m form a finite set. The result is in fact stronger than this because the finite set of exceptional traces does not depend on the group Γ , but only the smallest number field K containing the traces of all elements of Γ .

Because [Proposition 2.7](#) does not require discreteness of the group Γ and gives finiteness information based only on the “trace field” K , it gives information that is not contained in [Theorem 1.4](#). On the other hand, [Proposition 2.7](#) by itself does not directly imply [Theorem 1.4](#), primarily because it establishes finiteness only for the set of exceptional traces and not for the set of exceptional conjugacy classes, and secondarily because it requires Γ to be contained in $\mathrm{SL}_2(E)$ where E is a number field, rather than in $\mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C})$. Sections 3–5 of this paper are devoted to the geometric arguments that are needed to deduce [Theorem 1.4](#) from the purely algebraic [Proposition 2.7](#). The various ingredients are assembled in [Section 6](#) to prove [Theorem 1.4](#).

[Theorem 1.4](#) is proved by establishing separate finiteness results for the loxodromic elements of a given finitely generated, torsion-free Kleinian group Γ which are exceptional (in the sense that they do not admit a given integer $m > 2$ as a finitistic order), and for the parabolic elements of Γ which are exceptional. The finiteness for the exceptional loxodromic elements is reduced to [Proposition 2.7](#) via results about Kleinian groups established in [Section 4](#). Among these results I would like to call attention to [Proposition 4.2](#), which I have not seen stated before in its general form; it is used to reduce the proof of finiteness for the exceptional loxodromic elements to the special case where the Kleinian group Γ is geometrically

finite, has no rank-1 maximal parabolic subgroups, and is contained in $\mathrm{PSL}_2(E)$ for some number field E .

The work needed to prove finiteness for exceptional parabolic elements is done in [Section 5](#). The general approach to the main result of this section, [Proposition 5.2](#), was directly inspired by the proof of [[Allman and Hamilton 1999](#), Lemma 3]. The details of the proof turn out to involve Thurston's Dehn filling theorem and some interesting interactions between the topological and geometric aspects of hyperbolic 3-manifolds.

[Proposition 2.7](#) will be applied in a different way to hyperbolic geometry in [[Shalen 2011b](#)], which will establish interactions between the Margulis number of a hyperbolic 3-manifold M and the trace field of M .

I am grateful to Alan Reid for pointing out to me the result due to Siegel and Mahler which I mentioned above, and to Dick Canary and Steve Kerckhoff for some informative correspondence.

2. Number fields, traces, and finitistic orders

2.1. If K is a field and g is an element of $\mathrm{SL}_2(K)$, I will denote by $[g]$ the image of g under the quotient homomorphism $\mathrm{SL}_2(K) \rightarrow \mathrm{PSL}_2(K)$. If Y is a subset of K I will denote by $\mathcal{M}_2(Y)$ the set of all 2×2 matrices whose entries lie in Y . If Z is a subset of $\mathcal{M}_2(K)$, I will denote by $\mathrm{trace} Z$ the set of all traces of elements of Z .

Lemma 2.2. *Let $m > 1$ be an integer, and k be a finite field containing an element α whose order in the multiplicative group k^\times is $2m$. Let g be an element of $\mathrm{SL}_2(k)$ such that $\mathrm{trace} g = \pm(\alpha + \alpha^{-1})$. Then $[g] \in \mathrm{PSL}_2(k)$ has order m .*

Proof. First consider the case in which $\mathrm{trace} g = \alpha + \alpha^{-1}$. In this case, the characteristic polynomial $X^2 - (\alpha + \alpha^{-1})X + 1$ of g has roots α and α^{-1} in k , and these roots are distinct since α has order $2m > 1$. Hence g is conjugate in $\mathrm{SL}_2(k)$ to $\begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$ and therefore has order $2m$ in $\mathrm{SL}_2(k)$. Since $-I$ is the unique element of order 2 in $\mathrm{SL}_2(k)$ it follows that $[g]$ has order m in $\mathrm{PSL}_2(k)$.

In the case where $\mathrm{trace} g = -(\alpha + \alpha^{-1})$, we have $\mathrm{trace}(-g) = \alpha + \alpha^{-1}$. By the case already proved it follows that $[g] = [-g]$ has order m in $\mathrm{PSL}_2(k)$. \square

2.3. In this section I will use some concepts and elementary facts from algebraic number theory that will be used. The book [[Neukirch 1999](#)] is a general reference.

Let K be a number field. I shall denote by $S_\infty(K)$ the set of all archimedean places of K .

A set S of places of K will be termed *admissible* if S is finite and $S \supset S_\infty(K)$. If S is admissible, I shall denote by $\mathcal{O}_{K,S}$ the *ring of S -integers* of K , defined as the intersection of all valuation rings corresponding to places not belonging to S . In

particular, $\mathbb{O}_K := \mathbb{O}_{K, \emptyset}$ is the ring of integers of K (see the statement (α) on p. 264 of [Ribenoim 1999]).

2.4. If K and E are number fields, with $K \subset E$, and if S is an admissible set of places in a number field K , I shall denote by S^E the set of all extensions to E of places in S . Since a given valuation of K admits only finitely many extensions to valuations of E , for example by Proposition 8.2 of [Neukirch 1999], S^E is an admissible set of places of E . On the other hand, since (by the same proposition) every valuation of K admits at least one extension to a valuation of E , we have $\mathbb{O}_{K,S} = \mathbb{O}_{E,S^E} \cap K$.

2.5. Let E be a number field, and let \mathfrak{p} be a nonarchimedean place of E . I will denote by $\mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p})}$ the valuation ring defined by \mathfrak{p} , by $k_{\mathfrak{p}}$ the residue field $\mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p})}/\mathfrak{p}$, and by $\eta_{\mathfrak{p}} : \mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p})} \rightarrow k_{\mathfrak{p}}$ the quotient homomorphism. I will denote by $h_{\mathfrak{p}}$ the natural homomorphism $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p})}) \rightarrow \mathrm{SL}_2(k_{\mathfrak{p}})$, defined by

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \eta_{\mathfrak{p}}(a) & \eta_{\mathfrak{p}}(b) \\ \eta_{\mathfrak{p}}(c) & \eta_{\mathfrak{p}}(d) \end{pmatrix}.$$

I will denote by $\kappa_{\mathfrak{p}} : \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p})}) \rightarrow \mathrm{PSL}_2(k_{\mathfrak{p}})$ the homomorphism defined by $\kappa_{\mathfrak{p}}(\gamma) = [h_{\mathfrak{p}}(\gamma)]$.

Lemma 2.6. *For each integer $n > 1$ there is a positive integer $N = N(n)$ with the following property. Let E be any number field, and let \mathfrak{p} be a nonarchimedean place of E such that $1/N \in \mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p})}$. Let $\omega \in E$ be a root of unity of order n . Then $\omega \in \mathbb{O}_E \subset \mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p})}$, and $\eta_{\mathfrak{p}}(\omega)$ is an element of order n in the multiplicative group $k_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\times}$.*

Proof. Let n be a positive integer. The roots of the cyclotomic polynomial $\Phi_n(X) \in \mathbb{Z}[X]$ are the primitive n -th roots of unity. For each proper divisor d of n , the roots of $X^d - 1$ are the d -th roots of unity. Hence $X^d - 1$ is relatively prime to $\Phi_n(X)$ in $\mathbb{Q}[X]$, and so there exist polynomials $A_d(X)$ and $B_d(X)$ in $\mathbb{Z}[X]$ such that $A_d(X)\Phi_n(X) + B_d(X)(X^d - 1) = N_d$ for some nonzero integer N_d . I will take N to be a positive integer which is divisible by N_d for every proper divisor d of n , and show that the conclusion holds with this choice of N .

Let E be any number field, and let \mathfrak{p} be a nonarchimedean place of E such that $1/N \in \mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p})}$. Let $\omega \in E$ be a root of unity of order n . Then in particular ω is an algebraic integer, and so $\omega \in \mathbb{O}_E \subset \mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p})}$. Let us set $\alpha = \eta_{\mathfrak{p}}(\omega)$. Since $\eta_{\mathfrak{p}} : \mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p})} \rightarrow k_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is homomorphism, we have $\alpha^n = 1$. I shall complete the proof by assuming that the order of α is a proper divisor d of n and deriving a contradiction.

Since the equality $A_d(X)\Phi_n(X) + B_d(X)(X^d - 1) = N_d$ holds in $\mathbb{Z}[X]$, and since $N_d|N$ and $1/N \in \mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p})}$, we have $A_d(\alpha)\Phi_n(\alpha) + B_d(\alpha)(\alpha^d - 1) \neq 0$ in $k_{\mathfrak{p}}$. But since ω has order n in E^{\times} , we have $\Phi_n(\omega) = 0$, and since $\eta_{\mathfrak{p}}$ is a homomorphism we have $\Phi_n(\alpha) = 0$. Furthermore, since α has order d in $k_{\mathfrak{p}}^{\times}$, we have $\alpha^d - 1 = 0$. This is a contradiction. □

I will now turn to the main result of [Section 2](#).

Proposition 2.7. *Let K be a number field, let S be an admissible set of places of K , and let $m > 2$ be an integer. Then there is a finite set $W \subset \mathbb{O}_{K,S}$ with the following property. Let γ be an element of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{O}_{K,S})$ such that $\mathrm{trace} \gamma \notin W$. Then there exists a place \mathfrak{p} of K , with $\mathfrak{p} \notin S$, such that $\kappa_{\mathfrak{p}}(\gamma) \in \mathrm{PSL}_2(k_{\mathfrak{p}})$ has order m . In particular, m is a finitistic order for $\gamma \in \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{O}_{K,S})$.*

Proof. Set $n = 2m$. Let $N = N(n)$ be a positive integer having the property stated in [Lemma 2.6](#). Let K_0 be a finite extension of K which contains a primitive n -th root of unity ω , and set $\tau = \omega + \omega^{-1} \in K_0$. Since $m > 2$ we have $\omega^2 \neq -1$ and hence $\tau \neq 0$. Let S_0 denote an admissible set of places of K_0 , containing S^{K_0} (see [Section 2.4](#)), such that $2, N$ and τ are units in \mathbb{O}_{K_0,S_0} .

Let U denote the set of all elements $u \in \mathbb{O}_{K_0,S_0}$ such that both u and $1-u$ are units in \mathbb{O}_{K_0,S_0} . According to [[Hindry and Silverman 2000](#), Theorem D.8.1] (a result due to Siegel and Mahler), U is a finite set. Hence the set $W_0 := \{(2u-1)\tau : u \in U\} \subset K_0$ is also finite, and so is $W = K \cap W_0$. I shall complete the proof of the proposition by showing that the conclusion is true with this choice of W .

I claim that for any $t \in K_0 - W_0$, either $t - \tau$ or $t + \tau$ is a nonunit in \mathbb{O}_{K_0,S_0} . Indeed, suppose that $t - \tau$ and $t + \tau$ are both units. Since 2 and τ are also units in \mathbb{O}_{K_0,S_0} , it then follows that $u := (\tau + t)/2\tau$ and $1 - u = (\tau - t)/2\tau$ are units as well, i.e., that $u \in U$. Hence $t = (2u - 1)\tau \in W_0$, a contradiction.

Now let γ be any element of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{O}_{K,S})$ such that $t := \mathrm{trace} \gamma \notin W$. In particular we have $t \in K_0 - W_0$. Hence we may choose an element ϵ of $\{1, -1\}$ such that $t - \epsilon\tau$ is a nonunit in \mathbb{O}_{K_0,S_0} . It follows that there is a place \mathfrak{p}_0 of K_0 , with $\mathfrak{p}_0 \notin S_0$, such that $t - \epsilon\tau$ belongs to the maximal ideal \mathfrak{m}_0 of $\mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p}_0)}$. Since $\mathfrak{p}_0 \notin S_0$, we have $\mathbb{O}_{K_0,S_0} \subset \mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p}_0)}$. Since $t - \epsilon\tau \in \mathfrak{m}_0$, we have, in the notation of [Section 2.5](#), $\eta_{\mathfrak{p}_0}(t) = \epsilon \eta_{\mathfrak{p}_0}(\tau) \in k_{\mathfrak{p}_0}$. But since $t = \mathrm{trace} \gamma$ we have $\eta_{\mathfrak{p}_0}(t) = \mathrm{trace} h_{\mathfrak{p}_0}(\gamma)$. Thus the element $g := h_{\mathfrak{p}_0}(\gamma)$ of $\mathrm{SL}_2(k_{\mathfrak{p}_0})$ has trace $\epsilon \eta_{\mathfrak{p}_0}(\tau)$. If we set $\alpha = \eta_{\mathfrak{p}_0}(\omega)$, then $\eta_{\mathfrak{p}_0}(\tau) = \alpha + \alpha^{-1}$. Since ω is a primitive n -th root of unity, and since $1/N \in \mathbb{O}_{K_0,S_0} \subset \mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p}_0)}$, it follows from [Lemma 2.6](#) that α has order $n = 2m$ in $k_{\mathfrak{p}_0}^\times$. Since $\mathrm{trace} g = \epsilon(\alpha + \alpha^{-1})$, it follows from [Lemma 2.2](#) that $[g] = \kappa_{\mathfrak{p}_0}(\gamma) \in \mathrm{PSL}_2(k_{\mathfrak{p}_0})$ has order m .

We have $\ker \kappa_{\mathfrak{p}_0} = \{\pm I\} + \mathcal{M}_2(\mathfrak{m}_0)$. Let \mathfrak{p} denote the restriction of the place \mathfrak{p}_0 to K . Since $\mathfrak{p}_0 \notin S_0$, and since $S^{K_0} \subset S$, we have $\mathfrak{p} \notin S$. If \mathfrak{m} denotes the maximal ideal of $\mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p})}$, we have $\ker \kappa_{\mathfrak{p}} = \{\pm I\} + \mathcal{M}_2(\mathfrak{m})$. Hence $\ker \kappa_{\mathfrak{p}} = \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathfrak{o}_{(\mathfrak{p})}) \cap \ker \kappa_{\mathfrak{p}_0}$. It follows that $\kappa_{\mathfrak{p}}(\gamma)$ has the same order as $\kappa_{\mathfrak{p}_0}(\gamma)$, namely m . \square

3. Preliminaries on Kleinian groups

The study of torsion-free Kleinian groups is closely related to the study of (complete) orientable hyperbolic 3-manifolds. The topological group $\mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ may be identified by a continuous isomorphism with the group of orientation-preserving

isometries of the 3-dimensional hyperbolic space \mathbb{H}^3 . If $\Gamma \leq \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ is discrete and torsion-free, the action of Γ on \mathbb{H}^3 is free and properly discontinuous, and $M := \mathbb{H}^3/\Gamma$ inherits the structure of an orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold with $\pi_1(M) \cong \Gamma$. Up to conjugacy there is a natural identification of $\pi_1(M)$ with Γ .

In this section I will collect a few essential facts about hyperbolic 3-manifolds which will be needed in Sections 4 and 5.

3.1. I will follow the conventions of [Shalen 2010, Section 3]. In particular, I will work in the smooth category (so that manifolds and submanifolds are understood to be smooth) but will often quote results proved in the piecewise linear category; the justification for doing this is explained in Section 3.1 of [Shalen 2010]. It is understood that a *manifold* may have a boundary. Recall that a 3-manifold M is said to be *irreducible* if M is connected and every 2-sphere in M is the boundary of a 3-ball in M . According to [Shalen 2010, Proposition 3.8], every orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold is irreducible.

I will also follow the conventions of [Shalen 2010, Section 2] in statements and arguments involving fundamental groups: I will suppress base points whenever it is possible to do so without ambiguity.

An element of $\mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ is said to be *parabolic* if it is nontrivial and has the form $[A]$ (see Section 2.1) for some $A \in \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ with trace $A = 2$. By a *parabolic subgroup* of a Kleinian group Γ I will mean a nontrivial subgroup of Γ whose nontrivial elements are all parabolic.

By a *standard cusp neighborhood* X in the orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold $M = \mathbb{H}^3/\Gamma$ I will mean a subset of the form B/Γ_B , where B is an open horoball in \mathbb{H}^3 , precisely invariant under Γ (in the sense that $\gamma \cdot B$ is either equal to B or disjoint from B for every $\gamma \in \Gamma$), and the stabilizer Γ_B of B is a parabolic subgroup. I will define the *rank* of X to be the rank of Γ_B (which must be equal to 1 or 2).

In general a Kleinian group is said to be *elementary* if it has an abelian subgroup of finite index. A torsion-free elementary Kleinian group is itself abelian (see, e.g., [Shalen 2011a, Proposition 2.1]).

3.2. A nonelementary, orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold M has a well-defined *convex core*, which I will denote by $\mathcal{C}(M)$. By definition, $\mathcal{C}(M)$ is the smallest nonempty closed subset of M which is *convex* in the strong sense that every geodesic path with endpoints in $\mathcal{C}(M)$ is entirely contained in $\mathcal{C}(M)$. For a construction of $\mathcal{C}(M)$ and proofs of its basic properties, see [Matsuzaki and Taniguchi 1998, Subsection 3.1.1] or [Morgan 1984, p. 63]. I will denote by $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$ the closed radius-1 metric neighborhood of $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$; it follows from [Matsuzaki and Taniguchi 1998, Proposition 3.1] that $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$ is a 3-manifold and a deformation retract of M .

A *closed geodesic* in a hyperbolic manifold M will be regarded as a map $C : S^1 \rightarrow M$ such that the map $t \mapsto C(e^{2\pi it})$ from \mathbb{R} to M is a geodesic; I will write

$|C| = C(S^1)$. The construction of $\mathcal{C}(M)$ given by Matsuzaki and Taniguchi or by Morgan immediately implies that $|C| \subset \mathcal{C}(M)$ for any closed geodesic C .

3.3. As in [Matsuzaki and Taniguchi 1998, p. 55], I will define the ϵ -thin part $M_{(0,\epsilon)}$ of a nonelementary orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold M , where $\epsilon > 0$ is given, to be the set of all points of M which are base points of homotopically nontrivial loops of length less than ϵ . According to Theorem 2.24 of the same work, there is a universal constant ϵ_0 such that for every orientable 3-manifold M , each component of $M_{(0,\epsilon_0)}$ is either a standard cusp neighborhood or a metric neighborhood of a simple closed geodesic. I will fix such a constant ϵ_0 for the rest of the paper. According to [Morgan 1984, Lemma 6.7], each rank-2 standard cusp neighborhood X in M contains a smaller rank-2 standard cusp neighborhood $s(X)$ which is contained in $\mathcal{C}(M)$. I will refer to the set $K := \mathcal{C}_1(M) - \bigcup_X s(X)$, where X ranges over all components of $M_{(0,\epsilon_0)}$ which are rank-2 standard cusp neighborhoods, as a *truncation* of $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$. Thus every nonelementary orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold admits a truncation K . (According to this definition, a truncation of $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$ is not quite unique, as it depends on the choice of the standard cusp neighborhoods $s(X)$.)

3.4. Let K be an orientable, irreducible 3-manifold. An *essential singular torus* in K is defined to be a map $f : T^2 \rightarrow K$ such that (i) $f_{\sharp} : \pi_1(T^2) \rightarrow \pi_1(K)$ is injective, and (ii) f is not homotopic in K to a map of T^2 into ∂K .

Now suppose that \mathcal{T} is a 2-dimensional submanifold of ∂K such that the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T) \rightarrow \pi_1(K)$ is injective for every component T of \mathcal{T} . In this setting I will define an *essential singular annulus* in the pair (K, \mathcal{T}) to be a map of pairs $f : (S^1 \times [0, 1], \partial(S^1 \times [0, 1])) \rightarrow (K, \mathcal{T})$ such that $f_{\sharp} : \pi_1(S^1 \times [0, 1]) \rightarrow \pi_1(K)$ is injective, and f is not homotopic rel $\partial(S^1 \times [0, 1])$ to a map of $S^1 \times [0, 1]$ into \mathcal{T} .)

Proposition 3.5. *Let $M = \mathbb{H}^3/\Gamma$ be an orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold, and let K be a truncation of $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$. Then:*

- (1) *K is irreducible and has no essential singular tori, and is a deformation retract of M .*
- (2) *For every torus component T of ∂K there is a standard cusp neighborhood which is a component of $\overline{M - K}$ and is bounded by T ; furthermore, the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T) \rightarrow \pi_1(M)$ is injective, and its image, a subgroup of $\pi_1(M) = \Gamma$ defined up to conjugacy, is a rank-2 maximal parabolic subgroup of Γ .*
- (3) *Conversely, every rank-2 maximal parabolic subgroup of Γ is conjugate to the image of the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T) \rightarrow \pi_1(M)$ for some torus component T of ∂K .*

Proof. Let $p : \mathbb{H}^3 \rightarrow M$ denote the quotient projection.

Suppose that P is a rank-2 maximal parabolic subgroup of Γ . Fix generators γ_1 and γ_2 of P . Since γ_1 and γ_2 are commuting parabolics, there is a point $\tilde{x} \in \mathbb{H}^3$ such that $d(\tilde{x}, \gamma_i \cdot \tilde{x}) < \epsilon_0$ for $i = 1, 2$. Set $x = p(\tilde{x})$. The base point $\tilde{x} \in p^{-1}(x) \subset \mathbb{H}^3$ determines an isomorphic identification of $\pi_1(M, x)$ with Γ , and under this identification, each γ_i is represented by a loop $c_i : [0, 1] \rightarrow M$ of length $< \epsilon_0$. If we set $G = c_1([0, 1]) \cup c_2([0, 1])$, then each point of G is the basepoint of a loop of length $< \epsilon_0$, and hence $G \subset M_{(0, \epsilon_0)}$. Under our identification, P is contained in the image P' of the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(G, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(M, x)$, and hence in the image of the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(X, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(M, x)$, where X denotes the component of $M_{(0, \epsilon_0)}$ containing G . Since P is non-cyclic, the discussion in [Section 3.3](#) shows that X is a rank-2 standard cusp neighborhood; hence P' is a parabolic subgroup of Γ , and the maximality of P implies that $P = P'$. It now follows from the definition of a truncation that X contains a unique torus component T of ∂K , and that the image (a priori defined up to conjugacy) of the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T) \rightarrow \pi_1(K)$ is conjugate to P . This proves (3).

Conversely, suppose that T is a torus component of ∂K . According to the definition of a truncation, T is either (a) a component of $\partial \mathcal{C}_1(M)$, or (b) the boundary of a standard cusp neighborhood which is a component of $\overline{M - K}$. However, by [\[Matsuzaki and Taniguchi 1998, Proposition 3.1\]](#), $\partial \mathcal{C}_1(M)$ is homeomorphic to Ω/Γ , where Ω denotes the set of discontinuity of Γ . Hence if (a) holds, some component of Ω conformally covers a torus; this is impossible for a nonelementary Kleinian group Γ , because the limit set $\Lambda = \widehat{\mathbb{C}} - \Omega$ must contain more than two points, and hence each component of Γ is a hyperbolic Riemann surface. Hence (b) must hold. If X denotes the standard cusp neighborhood bounded by T , then by definition $p^{-1}(X)$ is a horoball $B \subset \mathbb{H}^3$, and $p^{-1}(T)$ is the frontier H of B in \mathbb{H}^3 . Since H is simply connected, the inclusion homomorphism $i : \pi_1(T) \rightarrow \pi_1(M)$ is injective. Furthermore, the image of i is identified with the stabilizer Γ_B of B in Γ , which is a maximal parabolic subgroup of $\Gamma = \pi_1(M)$; being isomorphic to $\pi_1(T)$, it has rank 2. This proves (2).

To prove (1), first note that according to the definition of a truncation, each component of $\mathcal{C}_1(M) - K$ is a standard cusp neighborhood bounded by a torus component of ∂K ; hence K is a deformation retract of $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$. Since $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$ is in turn a deformation retract of M (cf. [Section 3.2](#)), it follows that K is a deformation retract of M .

Next note that, by [\[Matsuzaki and Taniguchi 1998, Proposition 3.1\]](#), $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$ is a deformation retract of M ; hence every component of $M - \mathcal{C}_1(M)$ has noncompact closure in M . In view of the definition of a truncation, it follows that every component of $M - K$ has noncompact closure in M . Since M is irreducible by [\[Shalen 2010, Proposition 3.8\]](#), it follows that K is irreducible. Finally, suppose

that $f : T^2 \rightarrow K \subset M$ is an essential singular torus. Then $X := f_{\#}(\pi_1(T^2)) \leq \pi_1(M)$ is a rank-2 free abelian subgroup of $\pi_1(M)$ which is defined up to conjugacy. There is an isomorphic identification of $\pi_1(M)$ with Γ which is also canonically defined up to conjugacy. Since Γ is discrete, X must be parabolic. Let X_0 be a maximal parabolic subgroup containing X ; as a parabolic subgroup, X_0 is free abelian of rank at most 2, and since it contains X its rank must be exactly 2. By assertion (3) of the proposition, which was proved above, X_0 is conjugate to the image of the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T) \rightarrow \pi_1(M)$ for some torus component T of ∂K . In particular, X is conjugate to a subgroup of the image of the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T) \rightarrow \pi_1(M)$. Since K is a deformation retract of M by [Proposition 3.5](#) and is therefore aspherical, it follows that f is homotopic, in K , to a map of T^2 into T . This contradicts the definition of an essential singular torus. \square

3.6. An orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold $M = \mathbb{H}^3 / \Gamma$ (or the Kleinian group Γ) is said to be *geometrically finite* if M is nonelementary and $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$ has a compact truncation.

Proposition 3.7. *An orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold M has finite volume if and only if M is geometrically finite and $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$ has a truncation whose boundary components are all tori.*

Proof. If $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$ has a truncation whose boundary components are all tori, it follows from Assertion (2) of [Proposition 3.5](#) that $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$ has no boundary; hence $\mathcal{C}_1(M) = M$. If in addition M is geometrically finite, then $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$ has finite volume according to Proposition 3.7 of [[Matsuzaki and Taniguchi 1998](#)]; hence in this case M has finite volume. Conversely, if M has finite volume, then in particular $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$ has finite volume, and the proposition just cited implies that M is geometrically finite. Furthermore, if we write $M = \mathbb{H}^3 / \Gamma$, the finiteness of $\text{vol } M$ implies that the limit set of Γ is the entire sphere at infinity; hence by [[Matsuzaki and Taniguchi 1998](#), Proposition 3.1], $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$ has no boundary, and so the boundary components of a truncation of $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$ are all tori. \square

An orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold $M = \mathbb{H}^3 / \Gamma$ will be said to *have no rank-1 cusps* if every maximal parabolic subgroup of Γ has rank 2.

The following version of Thurston's geometrization theorem is a kind of converse to [Proposition 3.5](#).

Proposition 3.8. *Let K be a compact, irreducible orientable 3-manifold which has nonempty boundary and has no essential singular tori. Then either $\pi_1(K)$ is isomorphic to either a Klein bottle group $\langle x, y : yxy^{-1} = x^{-1} \rangle$ or a free abelian group of rank at most 2, or K is diffeomorphic to a truncation of $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$ for some geometrically finite orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold M having no rank-1 cusps.*

Proof. Let \mathcal{T} denote the union of all torus components of K . If \mathcal{T} has a component T such that the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T) \rightarrow \pi_1(K)$ is not injective, then $\pi_1(K)$ is infinite cyclic by [Shalen 2010, Proposition 3.10]. We may therefore assume that $\pi_1(T) \rightarrow \pi_1(K)$ is injective for every component T of \mathcal{T} . We may also assume that K is not a 3-ball, as otherwise $\pi_1(K)$ is trivial.

Consider the case in which the pair (K, \mathcal{T}) has no essential singular annuli [Section 3.4]. In this case, since K also has no essential singular tori, and since $\pi_1(T) \rightarrow \pi_1(K)$ is injective for every component T of \mathcal{T} , the pair (K, \mathcal{T}) is a pared manifold in the sense of [Morgan 1984, Definition 4.8]. Furthermore, since K is irreducible and is not a ball, and $\partial K \neq \emptyset$, the manifold K is a Haken manifold in the sense defined on page 57 of [Morgan 1984]. Hence the pared manifold (K, \mathcal{T}) satisfies the hypotheses of Theorem B' in [Morgan 1984, p. 70]. Since the components of \mathcal{T} (if any) are all tori (rather than annuli), the conclusion of that theorem may be expressed, in the language of the present paper, by saying that there is a geometrically finite orientable hyperbolic manifold M , having no rank-1 cusps, such that K is diffeomorphic to a truncation of $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$.

There remains the case in which the pair (K, \mathcal{T}) has an essential singular annulus $f : (S^1 \times [0, 1], \partial(S^1 \times [0, 1])) \rightarrow (K, \mathcal{T})$. I will use the terminology of [Jaco and Shalen 1979] in the following argument. Let (Σ, Φ) denote a characteristic pair of the compact, irreducible pair (K, \mathcal{T}) , which exists by [ibid., p. 138]. According to [ibid., Remark IV.1.2] and the definition of a characteristic pair ([ibid., p. 138]), after modifying f by a homotopy of maps of pairs, we may assume that $f(S^1 \times [0, 1]) \subset \Sigma$ and $f(\partial(S^1 \times [0, 1])) \subset \Phi$. Let Σ_0 denote the component of Σ containing $f(S^1 \times [0, 1])$.

According to the definition of a characteristic pair, Σ_0 is a “perfectly embedded pair” in the sense of [ibid., p. 4]. Thus each component of $\Phi_0 := \Sigma_0 \cap \partial M = \Sigma_0 \cap \mathcal{T}$ is a compact submanifold of \mathcal{T} whose boundary curves (if any) are homotopically nontrivial in \mathcal{T} . Since the components of \mathcal{T} are tori, each component of Φ_0 is a torus or an annulus.

According to the definition of a characteristic pair, either Σ_0 is a Seifert fibered space and $\Phi_0 \subset \Sigma_0$ is saturated, or Σ_0 is a $[0, 1]$ -bundle whose associated $\{0, 1\}$ -bundle is Φ_0 . In the latter subcase, since the components of Φ_0 are tori and annulus, the base of the $[0, 1]$ -bundle is a torus, Klein bottle, annulus or Möbius band, and hence the $[0, 1]$ -bundle may be given the structure of a Seifert fibered space in such a way that Φ_0 is saturated. Thus in any event Σ_0 is a Seifert fibered space and Φ_0 is saturated.

I claim that the components of Φ_0 are tori. To prove this, let Σ_1 denote a regular neighborhood of the union of Σ_0 with all those components of \mathcal{T} which meet Σ_0 . Since Φ_0 is saturated in Σ_0 , the manifold Σ_1 is a Seifert fibered space. Since $\Sigma_1 \cap \mathcal{T}$ is a union of boundary tori of Σ_1 , the pair $(\Sigma_1, \Sigma_1 \cap \mathcal{T})$ is a Seifert pair.

Since f is an essential singular annulus and $f(S^1 \times [0, 1]) \subset \Sigma_0$, the inclusion map $i : (\Sigma_1, \Sigma_1 \cap \mathcal{T}) \rightarrow (K, \mathcal{T})$ is an essential, nondegenerate map of Seifert pairs. The defining property of the characteristic pair therefore implies that i is homotopic as a map of pairs to a map i' such that $i'(\Sigma_1) \subset \Sigma_0$ and $i'(\Sigma_1 \cap \mathcal{T}) \subset \Phi_0$. In particular, the inclusion of $\Sigma_1 \cap \mathcal{T}$ into \mathcal{T} is homotopic in \mathcal{T} to a map whose image is contained in Φ_0 . Since the components of $\Sigma_1 \cap \mathcal{T}$ are closed surfaces, it follows that $\Sigma_1 \cap \mathcal{T} = \Phi_0$, i.e., that the components of Φ_0 are tori.

Now I claim that $K = \Sigma_0$. If this is false, we may fix a component C of the frontier of Σ_0 in K . Since Σ_0 is a Seifert fibered space and $\Sigma \cap \partial K = \Phi_0$ is a union of components of $\partial \Sigma_0$, the surface C is a torus. Since Σ_0 is perfectly embedded, the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(C) \rightarrow \pi_1(M)$ is injective. As K contains no essential tori, the inclusion $C \rightarrow K$ must be homotopic to a map of C into ∂K . It then follows from [Waldhausen 1968, Corollary 5.5] that C is boundary-parallel in K . This contradicts the definition of a perfectly embedded pair.

Since $K = \Sigma_0$, the manifold K is a Seifert fibered space. Hence $\Gamma := \pi_1(K)$ has a cyclic normal subgroup N such that $Q := \Gamma/N$ is a Fuchsian group. Let $\tilde{\Gamma}$ denote the centralizer of N in Γ , so that $[\Gamma : \tilde{\Gamma}] \leq 2$. Let $q : \Gamma \rightarrow Q$ denote the quotient projection, and set $\tilde{Q} = q(\tilde{\Gamma})$. Since $\partial K \neq \emptyset$, we may write Q as a free product of nontrivial cyclic groups.

If in the free product description of Q there are at least three factors, or if there are at least two factors and one of them order strictly greater than 2, then \tilde{Q} has infinitely many nonconjugate maximal infinite cyclic subgroups. For each maximal cyclic subgroup Z of \tilde{Q} , the group $q^{-1}(Z)$ is a maximal rank-2 free abelian subgroup of Γ . Hence Γ has infinitely many nonconjugate maximal rank-2 free abelian subgroups. As ∂K has only finitely many components, it follows that K admits an essential singular torus, a contradiction to the hypothesis.

Hence in the free product description of Q there are at most two factors, and if there are two factors they are both of order 2. This means that either the base B of the Seifert fibration is a Möbius band or annulus and there are no singular fibers; or B is a disk and there is at most one singular fiber; or B is a disk and there are two singular fibers, both of local degree 2. It follows that K is diffeomorphic to a solid torus — a contradiction — or to $T^2 \times [0, 1]$ or a twisted I -bundle over a Klein bottle. Hence $\pi_1(K)$ is a Klein bottle group or a free abelian group of rank 2. \square

4. Geometrically finite Kleinian groups

The main results of the section are [Proposition 4.2](#), which I have not seen stated before, and [Proposition 4.3](#), which is routine. The following elementary result, [Proposition 4.1](#), which is needed for the proof of [4.2](#), seems surprisingly difficult to locate in the literature.

Proposition 4.1. *Let $V \subset \mathbb{C}^N$ be an affine algebraic set defined over an algebraically closed subfield F of \mathbb{C} . Then $V \cap F^N$ is a dense subset of V in the classical (complex) topology.*

Proof. According to [Nagata 1993, Theorem 3.10.9], if an algebraic set is defined over the algebraically closed subfield F of \mathbb{C} , then its irreducible components are defined over F .

I will prove the assertion by induction on the dimension of V , which is defined to be the maximum of the dimensions of its irreducible components. If $\dim V = 0$ then $V = \{P_1, \dots, P_k\}$ is a finite set. Since each irreducible component $\{P_i\}$ of V is defined over F , it follows for example from [Isaacs 1993, Corollary 30.3] that $P_i \in F^N$, which gives the conclusion in this case.

Now suppose that $V \subset \mathbb{C}^N$ is an affine algebraic set defined over F and having dimension $d > 0$, and that the assertion is true for affine algebraic subsets of \mathbb{C}^N defined over F and having dimension less than d . We must show that $V \cap F^N$ is dense in the classical (complex) topology of V . Since the irreducible components of V are defined over F , we may assume without loss of generality that V is irreducible.

Let U be a nonempty subset of V which is open in the classical topology. We must show that $U \cap F^N \neq \emptyset$. Let P_0 be a point of U . Since $\dim V > 0$, there is an irreducible curve X in \mathbb{C}^N with $P_0 \in X \subset V$. Let $X_0 \subset X$ denote the set of smooth points of X . Then X_0 is nonempty and Zariski-open in X , and by [Mumford 1976, Theorem 2.33] it is a dense subset of X in the classical topology. Hence $X_0 \cap U \neq \emptyset$. Fix a (classically) connected component W of $X_0 \cap U$. Then W is a complex 1-manifold; in particular it contains more than one point, and hence one of the coordinate functions on \mathbb{C}^N is nonconstant on W . If c denotes such a coordinate function, then $c|_W$ is a nonconstant holomorphic function on the connected complex 1-manifold W , and is therefore an open map to \mathbb{C} . Since F is dense in \mathbb{C} , it follows that $c(W) \cap F \neq \emptyset$. Choose a point $\alpha \in c(W) \cap F$. If we set $V' = c^{-1}(\alpha)$, it follows that $U' := V' \cap U \neq \emptyset$. But V' is an algebraic set defined over F . It is a proper subset of V since $c|_W$ is nonconstant, and since V is irreducible it follows that $\dim V' < d$. By the induction hypothesis, $V' \cap F^N$ is dense in the classical topology of V' , and hence $U' \cap F^N \neq \emptyset$. In particular $U \cap F^N \neq \emptyset$. \square

Proposition 4.2. *Let Γ be a nonelementary, finitely generated, torsion-free Kleinian group. Then Γ is isomorphic to a Kleinian group Γ_1 such that (i) Γ_1 is geometrically finite, (ii) every maximal parabolic subgroup of Γ_1 has rank 2, and (iii) $\Gamma_1 \leq \mathrm{PSL}_2(E)$ for some number field E .*

Proof. If M denotes the orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold \mathbb{H}^3/Γ , we have $\Gamma \cong \pi_1(M)$. I claim:

4.2.1. Γ is isomorphic to $\pi_1(M_0)$ for some geometrically finite orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold M_0 having no rank-1 cusps.

Indeed, 4.2.1 is obvious in the case where M is closed, since we may then take $M_0 = M$. If M is not closed, let us fix a truncation K of $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$, and denote by \mathcal{T} the union of all torus components of ∂K . According to the main theorem of [Sullivan 1981], Γ has only finitely many conjugacy classes of maximal parabolic subgroups; hence by Proposition 3.5, \mathcal{T} has only finitely many components, i.e., it is compact. It then follows from the relative core theorem of [McCullough 1986] that there is a compact, connected submanifold $K_0 \supset \mathcal{T}$ of K such that the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(K_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(K)$ is an isomorphism. According to [Shalen 2010, Lemma 3.4], there is a compact, irreducible, 3-dimensional submanifold K_1 of M such that $K_1 \supset K_0$, and such that the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(K_0) \rightarrow \pi_1(K_1)$ is surjective. It follows that $K_1 \supset \mathcal{T}$ and that the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(K_1) \rightarrow \pi_1(K)$ is an isomorphism. Since $\pi_1(K_1) \cong \Gamma$ is torsion-free and nonabelian, and hence infinite, it follows from [Shalen 2010, Proposition 3.9] that K_1 is aspherical; on the other hand, K is homotopy equivalent to the hyperbolic manifold M and is therefore aspherical. Hence the inclusion $K_1 \rightarrow K$ is a homotopy equivalence, and so K_1 is a strong deformation retract of K . Since K has no essential tori by Proposition 3.5, any singular essential torus $f : T^2 \rightarrow K_1$ would be homotopic in K to a map g of T^2 into $\mathcal{T} \subset K_1$; since K_1 is a strong deformation retract of K , the maps f and g would be homotopic in K_1 , a contradiction to the essentiality of f . Hence K_1 has no essential tori. We have $\partial K_1 \neq \emptyset$ since M is noncompact. Since $\pi_1(K)$ is isomorphic to the nonelementary Kleinian group Γ , it has no abelian subgroup of finite index. It therefore follows from Proposition 3.8 that K_1 is diffeomorphic to $\mathcal{C}_1(M_0)$ for some geometrically finite, orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold M_0 having no rank-1 cusps. In particular we have $\Gamma \cong \pi_1(M) \cong \pi_1(K_1) \cong \pi_1(M_0)$. Thus 4.2.1 is established in all cases.

Let $\text{Hom}(\Gamma, \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ denote the set of all representations of Γ in $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{C})$. Let $\text{Hom}(\Gamma, \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{C}))^*$ denote the subset of $\text{Hom}(\Gamma, \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{C}))$ consisting of all representations ρ such that ρ maps each parabolic element of Γ to an element of trace ± 2 in $\text{SL}_2(\mathbb{C})$. Fix a generating set x_1, \dots, x_t of Γ , and define a map of sets

$$\Phi : \text{Hom}(\Gamma, \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{C})) \rightarrow \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{C})^t \subset (\mathcal{M}_2)^t$$

by $\Phi(\rho) = (\rho(x_i))_{1 \leq i \leq t}$. Then

$$R := \Phi(\text{Hom}(\Gamma, \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{C}))) \subset (\mathcal{M}_2)^t$$

is readily seen to be an affine algebraic subset of $(\mathcal{M}_2)^t$ (see [Shalen 2002, Subsection 4.1]). Furthermore,

$$R^* := \Phi(\text{Hom}(\Gamma, \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{C}))^*) \subset R$$

is also an algebraic set. (In the notation of [Shalen 2002, Subsection 4.4], R^* is the locus of zeros within R of the polynomials $I_\gamma^2 - 4$, where γ ranges over the parabolics in Γ .)

Now let $P : \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ denote the quotient map. Let $\mathcal{F}\mathcal{G}$ denote the set of all points of R of the form $\Phi(\rho)$, where $\rho : \Gamma \rightarrow \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ is a representation of Γ such that $P \circ \rho$ is faithful and $P \circ \rho(\Gamma)$ is a geometrically finite Kleinian group of which all maximal parabolic subgroups have rank 2. If M_0 is the hyperbolic manifold given by 4.2.1, then according to [Culler and Shalen 1983, Proposition 3.1.1], the discrete faithful representation of $\pi_1(M_0)$ in $\mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ defined by the hyperbolic structure of M_0 may be lifted to a representation $r : \pi_1(M_0) \rightarrow \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C})$; precomposing r with an isomorphism of Γ onto $\pi_1(M_0)$ gives a representation ρ such that $\Phi(\rho) \in \mathcal{F}\mathcal{G}$. Hence:

4.2.2. $\mathcal{F}\mathcal{G} \neq \emptyset$.

Since a discrete rank-2 free abelian subgroup of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ must be parabolic, we have $\mathcal{F}\mathcal{G} \subset R^*$. Now I claim:

4.2.3. The subset $\mathcal{F}\mathcal{G}$ is open in R^* .

To prove 4.2.3 one must show, given a point $\Phi(\rho_0) \in \mathcal{F}\mathcal{G}$, that some neighborhood of $\Phi(\rho_0)$ in R^* is contained in $\mathcal{F}\mathcal{G}$. Here $P \circ \rho_0$ is faithful, $\Gamma_0 := P(\rho_0(\Gamma))$ is discrete and geometrically finite, and all its maximal parabolic subgroups have rank 2. Since the Kleinian group Γ_0 is geometrically finite, it follows from [Matsuzaki and Taniguchi 1998, Theorem 3.7] that there is a finite-sided Dirichlet polyhedron for Γ_0 . It then follows from the proof of [Marden 1974, Proposition 9.2] that $\Phi(\rho_0)$ has a neighborhood in R^* consisting of points of the form $\Phi(\rho)$, where ρ is a faithful representation such that $P \circ \rho(\Gamma)$ is discrete and geometrically finite, and hence $\Phi(\rho) \in \mathcal{F}\mathcal{G}$. This completes the proof of 4.2.3.

(The definition of a Kleinian group used in [Marden 1974] includes the condition that the group have a nonempty set of discontinuity on the sphere at infinity, although this condition does not appear to be used in the proof of [Marden 1974, Proposition 9.2]. This is why, in the proof of 4.2.3 given above, I have had to quote the proof of [Marden 1974, Proposition 9.2] rather than the statement; the latter result, *as stated*, does not cover the case in which the set of discontinuity $\Omega_0 \subset S_\infty$ of Γ_0 is empty. An alternative approach in the case $\Omega_0 = \emptyset$ is to apply [Matsuzaki and Taniguchi 1998, Proposition 3.1] to the manifold $M_0 = \mathbb{H}^3/\Gamma_0$ to deduce that $\mathcal{C}_1(M_0)$ has empty boundary. It then follows from the definition of a truncation that $\mathcal{C}_1(M_0)$ has a truncation whose boundary components are all tori. Hence by Proposition 3.7, M has finite volume. In the finite-volume case, 4.2.3 is a well-known consequence of the results of [Garland 1967].)

Let \mathcal{Y} denote the set of all points of R^* whose coordinates are algebraic numbers. Since \mathcal{Y} is the locus of zeros of a set of polynomial equations with integer

coefficients, we may apply [Proposition 4.1](#), taking F to be the algebraic closure of \mathbb{Q} in \mathbb{C} , to deduce that \mathcal{Y} is dense in R^* . In view of [4.2.2](#) and [4.2.3](#) it follows that $\mathcal{Y} \cap \mathcal{F}\mathcal{G} \neq \emptyset$. Let ρ_1 be a representation such that $\Phi(\rho_1) \in \mathcal{Y} \cap \mathcal{F}\mathcal{G}$, and set $\Gamma_1 = P(\rho_1(\Gamma))$ under the quotient homomorphism $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C})$. Since $\Phi(\rho_1) \in \mathcal{F}\mathcal{G}$, the group Γ_1 is discrete, is isomorphic to Γ , and satisfies conditions (i) and (ii) of the conclusion of the proposition. Since $\Phi(\rho_1) \in \mathcal{Y}$, there is a number field E containing the coordinates of $\Phi(\rho_1)$. It follows that $\rho_1(\Gamma) \leq \mathrm{SL}_2(E)$, and condition (iii) of the conclusion follows. \square

Proposition 4.3. *Let Γ be a geometrically finite, torsion-free Kleinian group, and let R be a positive real number. Then the set of loxodromic elements of Γ having length less than R is a union of finitely many conjugacy classes.*

Proof. Set $M := \mathbb{H}^3/\Gamma$. Fix a truncation K of $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$, and let X_1, \dots, X_k denote the standard cusp neighborhoods bounded by the torus components of ∂K . Since Γ is geometrically finite, K is compact (cf. [Section 3.2](#)). Let D denote the intrinsic diameter of K , so that any two points of K are joined by a path of length at most D . Fix a base point $\star \in K$, and fix a point $\tilde{\star} \in \mathbb{H}^3$ that maps to \star under the quotient map $\mathbb{H}^3 \rightarrow M$. The point $\tilde{\star}$ determines an isomorphism $J : \Gamma \rightarrow \pi_1(M, \star)$.

Let $\gamma \in \Gamma$ be a loxodromic element of length at most R . Then the conjugacy class of $J(\gamma) \in \pi_1(M, \star)$ is represented by an oriented closed geodesic C in M with length at most R . In the notation of [Section 3.2](#) we have $|C| \subset \mathcal{C}(M) \subset \mathcal{C}_1(M)$. Since γ is loxodromic, $|C|$ cannot be contained in any of the X_i . Hence $|C| \cap K \neq \emptyset$. Let us fix a point $y \in S^1$ such that $C(y) \in K$. Let β be a positively oriented loop in S^1 , based at y , which defines a generator of $\pi_1(S^1, y)$; then $c := C \circ \beta$ is a loop in M based at $\beta(y)$. Let α be a path in K which begins at \star , ends at $\beta(y)$, and has length at most D . Then $c' = \alpha \star c \bar{\alpha}$ is a loop based at \star which has length at most $R + 2D$, and $[c']$ is conjugate to $J(\gamma)$ in $\pi_1(M, \star)$. Hence $\gamma' = J^{-1}([c'])$ is conjugate to γ in Γ , and $d(\tilde{\star}, \gamma' \cdot \tilde{\star}) \leq R + 2D$. Since Γ is discrete there are only finitely many elements of Γ that displace $\tilde{\star}$ by a distance at most $R + 2D$, and the conclusion follows. \square

Corollary 4.4. *Let $\tilde{\Gamma}$ be a subgroup of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ which maps isomorphically onto a geometrically finite, torsion-free Kleinian group under the quotient homomorphism $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C})$. Let $\tau \neq \pm 2$ be a complex number. Then the set of elements of $\tilde{\Gamma}$ having trace τ is a union of finitely many conjugacy classes.*

Proof. Let Γ denote the image of $\tilde{\Gamma}$ on $\mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C})$. If $\gamma \in \tilde{\Gamma}$ has trace τ , then $[\gamma] \in \Gamma$ is loxodromic since $\tau \neq \pm 2$; and if $l \in (0, \infty)$ and $\theta \in \mathbb{R}/2\pi\mathbb{R}$ denote the length and twist angle of γ , then the quantity $2 \cosh((l + i\theta)/2)$, which is well-defined up to sign, is equal to $\pm\tau$. Hence all elements of $\tilde{\Gamma}$ with trace τ map to loxodromic elements of the same length in Γ , and the assertion of the corollary follows from [Proposition 4.3](#). \square

5. Dehn filling

The main result of this section is [Proposition 5.2](#), which I discussed in the introduction; as I pointed out there, it builds on ideas from [[Allman and Hamilton 1999](#)]. [Lemma 5.1](#) will be needed for the proof.

Lemma 5.1. *Let K be a compact irreducible orientable 3-manifold with no essential singular tori. Let T be a torus component of ∂K , and let x denote a base point in T . Suppose that the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(K, x)$ is injective, and let P denote its image. Then there exist a compact, irreducible orientable 3-manifold K' , a component T' of $\partial K'$, a base point $x' \in T'$ and a homomorphism $J : \pi_1(K, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(K', x')$, such that*

- (1) every component of $\partial K'$ is a torus;
- (2) there are no essential tori in K' ; and
- (3) $J|_P$ is an isomorphism of P onto the image of the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T', x') \rightarrow \pi_1(K', x')$.

Proof. Let T_1, \dots, T_k denote the torus components of ∂K , indexed so that $T_1 = T$. If T_1, \dots, T_k are the only components of ∂K , the conclusion of the lemma follows upon setting $K' = K$ and taking J to be the identity map. I will therefore assume that ∂K has one or more boundary component of genus greater than 1; let F_1, \dots, F_n denote the higher-genus components of ∂K , and let $g_j > 1$ denote the genus of F_j .

First consider the case in which K is boundary-irreducible. For $j = 1, \dots, n$, the construction of [[Fujii 1990](#)] gives a compact orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold Q_j with connected totally geodesic boundary such that ∂Q_j has genus g_j . Since Q_i has totally geodesic boundary, it follows from [[Bonahon 2002](#), Theorem 2.1] that Q_i is irreducible and boundary-irreducible, Q_i has no essential singular tori and $(Q_i, \partial Q_i)$ has no essential singular annuli (see [Section 3.4](#)).

Let K' denote the orientable 3-manifold obtained from the disjoint union of K and Q_1, \dots, Q_n by gluing F_j to ∂Q_j via some (arbitrarily chosen) diffeomorphism $\eta_j : F_j \rightarrow \partial Q_j$ for $j = 1, \dots, n$. Since K and each Q_i are boundary-irreducible, the surface $F = F_1 \cup \dots \cup F_n$ is incompressible in K' . I claim that K' is irreducible and boundary-irreducible, and has no essential singular tori.

To prove irreducibility, suppose that $\Sigma \subset K'$ is a 2-sphere. After a small isotopy we may assume that Σ meets F transversally. I will prove by induction on the number c of components of $\Sigma \cap F$ that Σ bounds a ball in K' . The case $c = 0$ follows from the irreducibility of K and the Q_j . If $c > 0$, each component of $\Sigma \cap F$ bounds a disk in F since F is incompressible. Among all disks in F bounded by components of $\Sigma \cap F$, choose one, say D , which is minimal with respect to inclusion. Then $C := \partial D$ bounds two disks $E_1, E_2 \subset \Sigma$, and each $E_i \cup D$ is a

2-sphere Σ'_i which is isotopic by a small isotopy to a 2-sphere meeting F in fewer than c components. By the induction hypothesis, each Σ'_i bounds a ball B_i . We have either $B_1 \cap B_2 = D$ or, after possibly reindexing the B_i , that $B_1 \subset B_2$. In the first case $B_1 \cup B_2$ is a ball bounded by Σ , and in the second case $\overline{B_2 - B_1}$ is a ball bounded by Σ .

The proof of boundary-irreducibility is somewhat similar. Suppose that $\Delta \subset K'$ is a properly embedded disk which meets F transversally. I will prove by induction on the number c of components of $\Delta \cap F$ that $\partial\Delta$ bounds a disk in $\partial K'$. The case $c = 0$ follows from the boundary-irreducibility of K and the Q_j . If $c > 0$, each component of $\Delta \cap F$ bounds a disk in F since F is incompressible. Among all disks in F bounded by components of $\Delta \cap F$, choose one, say D , which is minimal with respect to inclusion. Then $C := \partial D$ bounds a disk $E \subset \Delta$, and $(\Delta - E) \cup D$ is a disk Δ' which is isotopic by a small isotopy to a disk meeting F in fewer than c components. By the induction hypothesis, $\partial\Delta = \partial\Delta'$ bounds a disk in $\partial K'$.

To show that K' has no essential singular tori, suppose that $f : T^2 \rightarrow K'$ induces an injection of fundamental groups. After a small homotopy we may assume that f is transverse to F . I will prove by induction on the number c of components of $f^{-1}(F)$ that f is homotopic to a map into $\partial K'$. The case $c = 0$ follows from the fact that K and the Q_j have no essential singular tori. Now suppose that $c > 0$ and that some component γ of $f^{-1}(F)$ bounds a disk $\Delta \subset T^2$. Since F is incompressible, $f|_\gamma$ is homotopically trivial in F . Hence there is a map $f' : T^2 \rightarrow K'$ which agrees with f outside Δ and maps Δ into F . Since K' is irreducible we have $\pi_2(K') = 0$, and hence f is homotopic to f' . Clearly f' is in turn homotopic by a small homotopy to a map f'_1 such that $(f'_1)^{-1}(F)$ has fewer than c components. By the induction hypothesis f'_1 is homotopic to a map into $\partial K'$, and hence so is f .

Now suppose that $c > 0$ and that no component γ of $f^{-1}(F)$ bounds a disk $\Delta \subset T^2$. Since $c > 0$ we have $f^{-1}(Q_1 \cup \cdots \cup Q_n) \neq \emptyset$. After reindexing the Q_i we may assume that $f^{-1}(Q_1) \neq \emptyset$. Choose a component A of $f^{-1}(Q_1)$. Since $(Q_1, \partial Q_1)$ has no essential annuli, $f|_A$ is homotopic in Q_1 to a map of A into F_1 . Hence f is homotopic to a map $f' : T^2 \rightarrow K'$ which agrees with f outside A and maps A into F . Clearly f' is in turn homotopic by a small homotopy to a map f'_1 such that $(f'_1)^{-1}(F)$ has fewer than c components. By the induction hypothesis f'_1 is homotopic to a map into $\partial K'$, and hence so is f .

Now let $J : \pi_1(K, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(K', x')$ be the inclusion homomorphism. I claim the conclusions of the lemma hold with this choice of J if we set $T = T'$ and $x' = x$. By construction K' is compact and orientable and its boundary components are tori. I have shown that K is irreducible and contains no essential singular tori. It remains only to observe that Conclusion (iii) of the lemma holds. If P' denotes the image of the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(K', x')$, the definitions of J , P and P' imply that $J(P) = P'$. That $J|_P : P \rightarrow P'$ is an isomorphism is tantamount to

saying that the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(K', x')$ is injective; this follows from the boundary-irreducibility of K' , which I proved above.

This completes the proof of the lemma when K is boundary-irreducible.

Now consider the case in which ∂K is boundary-reducible. Let D_1, \dots, D_m be a maximal system of pairwise disjoint, non-boundary-parallel, pairwise nonparallel, properly embedded disks in K . Let E be a regular neighborhood of $D_1 \cup \dots \cup D_m$ in K , and set $K_0 = \overline{K - E}$.

Since the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T) \rightarrow \pi_1(K)$ is injective, none of the disks D_1, \dots, D_m has its boundary in T , and hence $T \subset K_0$. Let K_1 denote the component of K_0 that contains T .

Since K is irreducible and has no essential singular tori, and since K_1 is a component of a manifold obtained from K by splitting it along a collection of pairwise disjoint properly embedded disks, K_1 is itself irreducible and has no essential singular tori. Furthermore, T is a component of ∂K_1 and the inclusion $\pi_1(T, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(K_1, x)$ is injective; I will denote its image by P_1 . On the other hand, the maximality of the family D_1, \dots, D_m implies that K_1 is boundary-irreducible. It therefore follows from the case of the lemma already proved that there exist a compact, irreducible, orientable 3-manifold K' , a component T' of $\partial K'$, a base point $x' \in T'$ and a homomorphism $J_1 : \pi_1(K_1, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(K', x')$ such that conclusions (i)–(iii) of the lemma hold with K_1, P_1 and J_1 in place of K, P and J .

Since K_1 is a component of a manifold obtained from K by splitting along a family of disks, the inclusion homomorphism $I : \pi_1(K_1, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(K, x)$ maps $\pi_1(K_1, x)$ isomorphically onto a free factor of $\pi_1(K, x)$. In particular I has a left inverse r which is a homomorphism. The definitions of I, P_1 and P imply that $I(P_1) = P$; since I is injective, it restricts to an isomorphism of P_1 onto P . Hence r maps P isomorphically onto P_1 . Since J_1 maps P_1 isomorphically onto P' , the homomorphism $J := J_1 \circ r : \pi_1(K, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(K', x')$ maps P isomorphically onto P' , and the lemma is proved in this case as well. \square

Proposition 5.2. *Let Γ be a torsion-free geometrically finite Kleinian group such that every maximal parabolic subgroup of Γ has rank 2. Let P be a maximal parabolic subgroup of Γ . Then there is a finite set $Y \subset P$ such that for every $\gamma \in P - Y$, and every positive integer m , there exist a Kleinian group $\widehat{\Gamma}$ and a homomorphism $H : \Gamma \rightarrow \widehat{\Gamma}$ such that $H(\gamma)$ has order m in $\widehat{\Gamma}$. Furthermore, if Y is such a set, then every positive integer is a finitistic order for every $\gamma \in P - Y$.*

Proof. Set $M = \mathbb{H}^3 / \Gamma$, and fix a truncation K of $\mathcal{C}_1(M)$. Let $T_1 \cup \dots \cup T_k$ denote the torus boundary components of K . Since P is a maximal parabolic subgroup of Γ , it follows from [Proposition 3.5](#) that, after possibly reindexing the T_i and choosing a base point $x \in T_1$, we have an isomorphic identification of Γ with $\pi_1(K, x)$ under which P is the image of the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T_1, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(K, x)$.

I will begin by proving the first assertion in the case where Γ has finite covolume. In this case we have $\mathcal{C}_1(M) = M$; and if K is a truncation of M , then ∂K is a union of tori T_1, \dots, T_k by [Proposition 3.7](#). The proof in this case is an application of Thurston's hyperbolic Dehn filling theorem, which is stated and proved as [[Petronio and Porti 2000](#), Theorem 2.1].

The following notation will be borrowed from [[Petronio and Porti 2000](#)]. Fix a basis λ_i, μ_i of $H_1(T_i; \mathbb{Z})$ for each i . Denote by C the set of all coprime pairs of integers, together with a symbol ∞ . For $c_1, \dots, c_k \in C$ denote by $M_{c_1 \dots c_k}$ the manifold obtained from K as follows: if $c_i = \infty$, glue a half-open collar $T_i \times [0, \infty)$ to T_i ; if $c_i = (p_i, q_i)$, glue a solid torus $J_i = D^2 \times S^1$ to K along T_i , by gluing the meridian $S^1 \times \{1\}$ to a curve representing the class $p_i \lambda_i + q_i \mu_i$. Consider the set

$$G = \{\infty\} \cup \{g \in \mathbb{R}^2 : g = r \cdot (p, q) \text{ for some } r > 0 \text{ and relatively prime } p, q \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

For $g = r \cdot (p, q) \in G \setminus \{\infty\}$ define $c(g) = (p, q)$ and $\vartheta(g) = 2\pi/r$. Set $c(\infty) = \infty$. Topologize G as a subset of $\mathbb{R}^2 \cup \{\infty\} = S^2$.

According to [[Petronio and Porti 2000](#), Theorem 2.1] there is a neighborhood \mathcal{F} of (∞, \dots, ∞) in G^k such that for $(g_1, \dots, g_k) \in \mathcal{F}$ the manifold $M_{c(g_1) \dots c(g_k)}$ admits the structure of a complete finite-volume hyperbolic cone manifold in which the cone locus consists of the cores $\{0\} \times S^1$ of those J_i such that $g_i \neq \infty$, and the cone angle at the core of J_i is $\vartheta(g_i)$.

The inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T_1, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(K, x)$ may be regarded as an isomorphism of $\pi_1(T_1, x)$ onto P . Composing the inverse of this isomorphism with the Hurewicz isomorphism from $\pi_1(T_1, x)$ to $H_1(T_1, \mathbb{Z})$, one obtains an isomorphism $e : P \rightarrow H_1(T_1, \mathbb{Z})$. The free abelian group P has a basis consisting of the elements $l := e^{-1}(\lambda_1)$ and $m := e^{-1}(\mu_1)$.

Now choose an integer $B > 0$ such that for every $c = (x, y) \in G \setminus \{\infty\}$ with $\max(|x|, |y|) > B$ we have $(c, \infty, \dots, \infty) \in \mathcal{F}$. Let Y denote the finite subset of P consisting of all elements of the form $l^r m^s$ as r and s range over all integers of absolute value at most B . I will show that the first assertion holds with this choice of Y .

Let $\gamma \in P - Y$ be given, and let m be a positive integer. Let us write $\gamma = l^d m^{dq}$, where p and q are relatively prime integers, d is a positive integer, and $\max(|dp|, |dq|) > B$. Hence $\max(md|p|, md|q|) > B$. If we set $g = (mdp, mdq)$, it follows that $(g, \infty, \dots, \infty) \in \mathcal{F}$. By definition we have $c(g) = (p, q)$ and $\vartheta(g) = 2\pi/(md)$.

The manifold $M_{c(g), \infty, \dots, \infty}$ is obtained from K by attaching a solid torus J along the boundary component T_1 , and attaching half-open collars to the remaining components of ∂K . Here J may be given a product structure $J = D^2 \times S^1$ in such a way that $S^1 \times \{1\}$ is glued to a simple closed curve representing the class $p\lambda + q\mu \in H_1(K; \mathbb{Z})$. The defining property of \mathcal{F} implies that $M_{c(g), \infty, \dots, \infty}$

admits the structure of a complete finite-volume hyperbolic cone manifold, whose cone locus consists of the core $\{0\} \times S^1$ of J , and the cone angle at this core is $\vartheta(g) = 2\pi/(md)$. Since md is an integer, the cone manifold structure gives $M_{c(g),\infty,\dots,\infty}$ the structure of a hyperbolic orbifold whose singular locus is the core curve; in the neighborhood of any point of the singular locus, the orbifold is topologically modeled on the quotient of \mathbb{R}^3 by the finite cyclic group $\mathbb{Z}/md\mathbb{Z}$, acting through rotations about an axis. It follows that the orbifold fundamental group $\pi_1^{\text{orb}}(M_{c(g),\infty,\dots,\infty})$ is isomorphic to a Kleinian group; and that if H denotes the inclusion homomorphism (defined modulo inner automorphisms) from $\pi_1(K)$ to $\pi_1^{\text{orb}}(M_{c(g),\infty,\dots,\infty})$, then H maps $\gamma_0 = l^p m^q$ onto a element of order of md . Hence H maps $\gamma = \gamma_0^d$ onto an element of order m . This proves the first assertion of the proposition in the finite-covolume case.

I now prove the first assertion in the general case. According to [Proposition 3.5](#), K is irreducible and has no essential singular tori. The inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T_1, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(K, x)$ is injective by [Proposition 3.5](#), and it has image P according to our choice of T_1 . Hence we may apply [Lemma 5.1](#), taking $T = T_1$. This gives a compact, irreducible orientable 3-manifold K' , a component T' of $\partial K'$, a base point $x' \in T'$ and a homomorphism $J : \pi_1(K, x) \rightarrow \pi_1(K', x')$. Furthermore, every component of $\partial K'$ is a torus; there are no essential tori in K' ; and if P' denotes the image of the inclusion homomorphism $\pi_1(T', x') \rightarrow \pi_1(K', x')$, then J restricts to an isomorphism of P onto P' .

I claim:

5.2.1. *There is a finite set $Y' \subset P'$ such that for every $\gamma' \in P' - Y'$, and every positive integer m , there exist a Kleinian group $\widehat{\Gamma}$ and a homomorphism*

$$h' : \pi_1(K', x') \rightarrow \widehat{\Gamma}$$

such that $h'(\gamma')$ has order m in $\widehat{\Gamma}$.

To prove this, first note that by [Proposition 3.8](#), we have one of the following possibilities:

- (i) K' is diffeomorphic to a truncation of $\mathcal{C}_1(M')$ for some geometrically finite orientable hyperbolic 3-manifold M' having no rank-1 cusps.
- (ii) $\pi_1(K', x')$ is free abelian.
- (iii) $\pi_1(K', x')$ is a Klein bottle group.

If (i) holds, then since the boundary components of K' are all tori, M' has finite volume by [Proposition 3.7](#), and we may write $M' = \mathbb{H}^3/\Gamma'$ for some torsion-free Kleinian group Γ' of finite covolume. Furthermore, we may identify $\pi_1(K', x')$ isomorphically with Γ' in such a way that P' is a maximal parabolic subgroup. In

this case, 5.2.1 follows from the finite-covolume case of the first assertion of the lemma, which has already been proved.

If (ii) or (iii) holds, I will set $\Gamma' = \pi_1(K', x')$. If (ii) holds, then according to the construction of Section 1.2, for every $\gamma' \in \Gamma' - \{1\}$ and every positive integer m , there is a homomorphism h' of Γ' onto a finite cyclic group Z such that $h'(\gamma')$ has order m ; as Z is in particular isomorphic to a Kleinian group, 5.2.1 holds in this case with $Y' = \{1\}$.

If (iii) holds, we may identify Γ' isomorphically with $\langle x, y : yxy^{-1} = x^{-1} \rangle$. Suppose that $\gamma' \in \Gamma' - \{1\}$ and a positive integer m are given. If γ' is not a power of x , its image γ'' under the quotient homomorphism $\Gamma' \rightarrow \Gamma'/\langle\langle x \rangle\rangle$ is nontrivial. Since $\Gamma'/\langle\langle x \rangle\rangle$ is infinite cyclic, the construction of Section 1.2 gives a homomorphism h'' of $\Gamma'/\langle\langle x \rangle\rangle$ onto a finite cyclic group Z such that $h''(\gamma'')$ has order m , and again 5.2.1 holds with $Y' = \{1\}$. If $\gamma' = x^k$ for some $k \neq 0$, and if D denotes the finite dihedral group $\langle u, v : v^2 = 1, u^{|k|} = 1, vuv^{-1} = u^{-1} \rangle$, the homomorphism $h' : \Gamma' \rightarrow D$ defined by $h'(x) = u, h'(y) = v$ maps γ' onto an element of order m . As D is isomorphic to a Kleinian group, 5.2.1 holds, in this subcase as well, with $Y' = \{1\}$. Thus 5.2.1 is established in all cases.

Let Y be the set given by 5.2.1, and let us set $Y = J^{-1}(Y')$. Let γ be any element of $P - Y$ and set $\gamma' = J(\gamma)$. Then $\gamma' \in P' - Y'$. Hence for every positive integer m there exist a Kleinian group $\widehat{\Gamma}$ and a homomorphism $h' : \Gamma' \rightarrow \widehat{\Gamma}$ such that $h'(\gamma')$ has order m in $\widehat{\Gamma}$. Setting $h = h' \circ J : \Gamma \rightarrow \widehat{\Gamma}$ we find that $h(\gamma)$ has order m in $\widehat{\Gamma}$. This completes the proof of the first assertion of the proposition.

To prove the second assertion, suppose that $\gamma \in P - Y$ and $m \in \mathbb{N}$ are given. Fix a Kleinian group $\widehat{\Gamma}$ and a homomorphism $H : \Gamma \rightarrow \widehat{\Gamma}$ such that $\hat{\gamma} := H(\gamma)$ has order m in $\widehat{\Gamma}$. The group $\widehat{\Gamma}$ is a subgroup of $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$, which is in turn isomorphic to a subgroup of $GL_2(\mathbb{C})$ (Indeed, the adjoint action of $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$ on its 3-dimensional Lie algebra factors through a faithful representation of $SL_2(\mathbb{C})$.) In particular $\widehat{\Gamma}$ is a linear group, and is therefore residually finite according to [Malcev 1940]. Since the elements $\hat{\gamma}, \hat{\gamma}^2, \dots, \hat{\gamma}^{m-1}$ of $\widehat{\Gamma}$ are nontrivial, there exist a finite group G and a homomorphism $J : \widehat{\Gamma} \rightarrow G$ such that $J(\hat{\gamma}^i)$ is nontrivial for $i = 1, \dots, m-1$. If h denotes the homomorphism $J \circ H : \Gamma \rightarrow G$, then $h(\gamma)^i = J(\hat{\gamma}^i)$ is nontrivial for $i = 1, \dots, m-1$, but $h(\gamma)^m$ is trivial since $\hat{\gamma}^m$ is trivial. Hence $h(\gamma)$ has order m in G . This shows that m is a finitistic order for γ . \square

6. Proof of the main theorem

This section is devoted to the proof of Theorem 1.4.

As in the statement of the theorem, let Γ be a finitely generated, torsion-free Kleinian group, let $m > 2$ be an integer, and let X denote the set of all elements of Γ for which m is a finitistic order. We must show that $\Gamma - X$ is a union of finitely

many conjugacy classes. If Γ is elementary then it is free abelian by [Section 3.1](#), and by [Section 1.2](#) it follows that $X = \Gamma$. For the rest of the proof I will assume that Γ is nonelementary.

The required conclusion depends only on the isomorphism class of Γ . In view of [Proposition 4.2](#), we may therefore assume without loss of generality that

- (1) Γ is geometrically finite,
- (2) every maximal parabolic subgroup of Γ has rank 2, and
- (3) $\Gamma \leq \mathrm{PSL}_2(K)$ for some number field K .

Since $m > 1$, the identity element 1 of Γ does not belong to X . Since Γ is torsion-free and discrete, every nontrivial element of Γ is loxodromic or parabolic. Hence we may write $\Gamma - X = Z_\ell \cup Z_p \cup \{1\}$, where Z_ℓ (resp. Z_p) denotes the set of loxodromic (resp. parabolic) elements of X . I shall prove the theorem by showing that each of the sets Z_ℓ and Z_p is a union of finitely many conjugacy classes. Note that each of these sets is obviously invariant under conjugation.

Since $\Gamma \leq \mathrm{PSL}_2(K)$ by (3) above, and since Γ is finitely generated, there is a finite set S of places of K such that $\Gamma \leq \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{O}_{K,S})$. After possibly enlarging S we may assume that it contains the infinite places, i.e., that it is admissible. According to [[Culler and Shalen 1983](#), Proposition 3.1.1], there is a subgroup $\tilde{\Gamma}$ of $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ such that the quotient homomorphism $\mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{C}) \rightarrow \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{C})$ restricts to an isomorphism $Q : \tilde{\Gamma} \rightarrow \Gamma$. Since $\Gamma \leq \mathrm{PSL}_2(\mathbb{O}_{K,S})$, we have $\tilde{\Gamma} \leq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{O}_{K,S})$.

We apply [Proposition 2.7](#), defining S as above and using the given value of $m > 2$. Since $\tilde{\Gamma} \leq \mathrm{SL}_2(\mathbb{O}_{K,S})$, the proposition implies in particular that there is a finite set $W \subset \mathbb{O}_{K,S}$ such that every element γ of $\tilde{\Gamma}$ with trace $\gamma \notin W$ has m as a finitistic order. Hence $\mathrm{trace}(\tilde{\Gamma} - Q^{-1}(X)) \subset W$.

In particular, if we set $\tilde{Z}_\ell = Q^{-1}(Z_\ell)$, then $\mathrm{trace}(\tilde{Z}_\ell)$ is contained in W and is therefore finite. On the other hand, since Z_ℓ consists of loxodromic elements, we have $2, -2 \notin \mathrm{trace}(\tilde{Z}_\ell)$. Since Γ is geometrically finite by (1) above, it follows from [Corollary 4.4](#) that \tilde{Z}_ℓ contains only finitely many $\tilde{\Gamma}$ -conjugacy classes of elements with any given trace. Hence \tilde{Z}_ℓ contains only finitely many conjugacy classes, and therefore so does Z_ℓ .

Since Γ is geometrically finite, a truncation of $M = \mathbb{H}^3/\Gamma$ has only finitely many torus components, and hence by [Proposition 3.5](#), Γ has only finitely many conjugacy classes of maximal parabolic subgroups. Let $k \geq 0$ denote the number of these conjugacy classes, and let P_1, \dots, P_k be subgroups representing them. By (2) above, each of the P_i has rank 2. According to [Proposition 5.2](#) (and conditions (1) and (2) above), each P_i has a finite subset Y_i such that every positive integer — and in particular m — is a finitistic order for every $\gamma \in P_i - Y_i$. Hence each element of Z_p is conjugate to an element of $\bigcup_{i=1}^k Y_i$. This shows that Z_p is contained in a union of finitely many conjugacy classes, completing the proof of [Theorem 1.4](#).

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PETER B. SHALEN

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, STATISTICS, AND COMPUTER SCIENCE (M/C 249)

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

851 S. MORGAN ST.

CHICAGO IL 60607-7045

UNITED STATES

shalen@math.uic.edu

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V. S. Varadarajan (Managing Editor)
Department of Mathematics
University of California
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1555
pacific@math.ucla.edu

Vyjayanthi Chari
Department of Mathematics
University of California
Riverside, CA 92521-0135
chari@math.ucr.edu

Darren Long
Department of Mathematics
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-3080
long@math.ucsb.edu

Sorin Popa
Department of Mathematics
University of California
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1555
popa@math.ucla.edu

Robert Finn
Department of Mathematics
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305-2125
finn@math.stanford.edu

Jiang-Hua Lu
Department of Mathematics
The University of Hong Kong
Pokfulam Rd., Hong Kong
jhlu@maths.hku.hk

Jie Qing
Department of Mathematics
University of California
Santa Cruz, CA 95064
qing@cats.ucsc.edu

Kefeng Liu
Department of Mathematics
University of California
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1555
liu@math.ucla.edu

Alexander Merkurjev
Department of Mathematics
University of California
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1555
merkurev@math.ucla.edu

Jonathan Rogawski
Department of Mathematics
University of California
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1555
jonr@math.ucla.edu

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