# ON COMMUTATIVITY AND OVALS FOR A PAIR OF SYMMETRIES OF A RIEMANN SURFACE 

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#### Abstract

We study the upper bounds for the total number of ovals of two symmetries of a Riemann surface of genus $g$, whose product has order $n$. We show that the natural bound coming from Bujalance, Costa, Singerman and Natanzon's original results is attained for arbitrary even $n$, and in case of $n$ odd, there is a sharper bound, which is attained. We also prove that two $(M-q)$ - and $\left(M-q^{\prime}\right)$-symmetries of a Riemann surface $X$ of genus $g$ commute for $g \geq q+q^{\prime}+1$ (by ( $M-q$ )-symmetry we understand a symmetry having $g+1-q$ ovals) and we show that actually, with just one exception for any $g>2$, $q+q^{\prime}+1$ is the minimal lower bound for $g$ which guarantees the commutativity of two such symmetries.


1. Introduction. Let $X$ be a compact Riemann surface of genus $g>1$. By a symmetry of $X$ we mean an antiholomorphic involution $a$ of $X$ which has fixed points. By the classical result of Harnack the set of fixed points of $a$ consists of at most $g+1$ disjoint simple closed curves, which are called ovals. If $a$ has $g+1-q$ ovals then we shall call it an $(M-q)$-symmetry.

In [4] we observed (see also Corollary 3 in [1]) that for $g \geq q+q^{\prime}$ +1 , arbitrary $(M-q)$ - and $\left(M-q^{\prime}\right)$-symmetries of a Riemann surface $X$ commute. Here, using a method developed in [2], we show that with just one exception for any $g>2, q+q^{\prime}+1$ is the minimal lower bound for $g$ which guarantees the commutativity of arbitrary $(M-q)$ - and $\left(M-q^{\prime}\right)$-symmetries. We show (Theorems 4.1 and 4.2) that for $2 \leq g \leq q+q^{\prime}$ there exists a configuration of two non-commuting $(M-q)$ - and $\left(M-q^{\prime}\right)$-symmetries, unless $g>2$ and $\left\{q, q^{\prime}\right\}=\{1, g\}$, as in that case such symmetries always commute. It is worth recalling here that in [6] Natanzon gives a topological classification of pairs of commuting symmetries.

In [1] and [5] it was shown that two symmetries of a Riemann surface of genus $g$, whose product has order $n$, have at most $4 g / n+2$ or $2(g-1) / n+4$ ovals in total for $n$ even and odd respectively. Also it was shown that these

[^0]bounds are attained for arbitrary $n$ such that $n$ divides $4 g$ or $g-1$, depending on the parity of $n$. We recall Bujalance, Costa and Singerman's result from [1] and we study natural bounds following from it, i.e. $[4 g / n]+2$ for $n$ even and $[2(g-1) / n]+4$ for $n$ odd. We show (Theorem 3.3) that for $n$ odd this new bound is not attained for $n$ not dividing $g-1$, we find a sharper bound and show its attainment for given $n$ for infinitely many values of $g$. In contrast, for $n$ even, the bound $[4 g / n]+2$ is attained for a wider range of $g$ and $n$ than in [1], as we show in Theorem 3.4. Similar problems, concerning the numbers of ovals of two symmetries, were also studied in [3].

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2. Preliminaries. We shall prove our results using the theory of noneuclidean crystallographic groups ( $N E C$ groups for short), by which we mean discrete and cocompact subgroups of the group $\mathcal{G}$ of all isometries of the hyperbolic plane $\mathcal{H}$. The algebraic structure of such a group $\Lambda$ is determined by its signature

$$
\begin{equation*}
s(\Lambda)=\left(g ; \pm ;\left[m_{1}, \ldots, m_{r}\right] ;\left\{\left(n_{11}, \ldots, n_{1 s_{1}}\right), \ldots,\left(n_{k 1}, \ldots, n_{k s_{k}}\right)\right\}\right) \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the brackets $\left(n_{i 1}, \ldots, n_{i s_{i}}\right)$ are called the period cycles, the integers $n_{i j}$ are the link periods, $m_{i}$ the proper periods and finally $g$ the orbit genus of $\Lambda$.

A group $\Lambda$ with signature (1) has the presentation with the following generators, called canonical generators:

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
x_{1}, \ldots, x_{r}, e_{i}, c_{i j}, & 1 \leq i \leq k, 0 \leq j \leq s_{i} \\
a_{1}, b_{1}, \ldots, a_{g}, b_{g} & \text { if the sign is }+ \\
d_{1}, \ldots, d_{g} & \text { otherwise }
\end{array}
$$

and relators

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x_{i}^{m_{i}}, \quad i=1, \ldots, r \\
& c_{i, j-1}^{2}, c_{i j}^{2},\left(c_{i, j-1} c_{i j}\right)^{n_{i j}}, c_{i 0} e_{i}^{-1} c_{i s_{i}} e_{i}, \quad i=1, \ldots, k, j=1, \ldots, s_{i},
\end{aligned}
$$

and

$$
x_{1} \cdots x_{r} e_{1} \cdots e_{k} a_{1} b_{1} a_{1}^{-1} b_{1}^{-1} \cdots a_{g} b_{g} a_{g}^{-1} b_{g}^{-1} \quad \text { or } \quad x_{1} \cdots x_{r} e_{1} \cdots e_{k} d_{1}^{2} \cdots d_{g}^{2}
$$

according as the sign is + or - . The elements $x_{i}$ are elliptic transformations, $a_{i}, b_{i}$ hyperbolic translations, $d_{i}$ glide reflections and $c_{i j}$ hyperbolic reflections. The reflections $c_{i, j-1}, c_{i j}$ are said to be consecutive. Every element of finite order in $\Lambda$ is conjugate to a canonical reflection, a power of
some canonical elliptic element, or a power of the product of two consecutive canonical reflections.

Now an abstract group with the above presentation can be realized as an NEC group $\Lambda$ if and only if the value

$$
2 \pi\left(\varepsilon g+k-2+\sum_{i=1}^{r}\left(1-\frac{1}{m_{i}}\right)+\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{k} \sum_{j=1}^{s_{i}}\left(1-\frac{1}{n_{i j}}\right)\right)
$$

is positive where $\varepsilon=2$ or 1 according as the sign is + or - . This value turns out to be the hyperbolic area $\mu(\Lambda)$ of an arbitrary fundamental region for the group, and we have the Hurwitz-Riemann formula

$$
\left[\Lambda: \Lambda^{\prime}\right]=\mu\left(\Lambda^{\prime}\right) / \mu(\Lambda)
$$

for any subgroup $\Lambda^{\prime}$ of finite index in an NEC group $\Lambda$.
Now NEC groups having no orientation-reversing elements are classical Fuchsian groups. They have signatures $\left(g ;+;\left[m_{1}, \ldots, m_{r}\right] ;\{-\}\right)$, which will be abbreviated as $\left(g ; m_{1}, \ldots, m_{r}\right)$. Given an NEC group $\Lambda$, the subgroup $\Lambda^{+}$ of $\Lambda$ consisting of the orientation-preserving elements is called the canonical Fuchsian subgroup of $\Lambda$ and for a group with signature (1) it has, by [7], the signature

$$
\begin{equation*}
\left(\varepsilon g+k-1 ; m_{1}, m_{1}, \ldots, m_{r}, m_{r}, n_{11}, \ldots, n_{k s_{k}}\right) \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

A torsion free Fuchsian group $\Gamma$ is called a surface group and it has signature $(g ;-)$. In that case $\mathcal{H} / \Gamma$ is a compact Riemann surface of genus $g$, and conversely, each compact Riemann surface can be represented as such an orbit space for some $\Gamma$. Furthermore, given a Riemann surface so represented, a finite group $G$ is a group of automorphisms of $X$ if and only if $G=\Lambda / \Gamma$ for some NEC group $\Lambda$. The following result from [2] is crucial for the paper.

Proposition 2.1. Let $X=\mathcal{H} / \Gamma$ be a Riemann surface and $G$ the group of all automorphisms of $X$. Let $G=\Lambda / \Gamma$ for some $N E C$ group $\Lambda$ and let $\theta: \Lambda \rightarrow G$ be the canonical epimorphism. Then the number of ovals of $a$ symmetry $a$ of $X$ equals

$$
\sum\left[C\left(G, \theta\left(c_{i}\right)\right): \theta\left(C\left(\Lambda, c_{i}\right)\right)\right]
$$

where the sum is taken over a set of representatives of all conjugacy classes of canonical reflections whose images under $\theta$ are conjugate to a.

For a symmetry $a$ we shall denote by $\|a\|$ the number of its ovals. The index $w_{i}=\left[C\left(G, \theta\left(c_{i}\right)\right): \theta\left(C\left(\Lambda, c_{i}\right)\right)\right]$ will be called the contribution of $c_{i}$ to $\|a\|$.

Lemma 2.2 (see also Theorem 2 in [1]). Let $\mathrm{D}_{n}=\Lambda / \Gamma$ be the group of automorphisms of a Riemann surface $X=\mathcal{H} / \Gamma$ generated by two noncentral symmetries $a$ and $b$ and let $C=\left(n_{1}, \ldots, n_{s}\right)$ be a period cycle of $\Lambda$. If $n$ is odd then the reflections corresponding to $C$ contribute to $\|a\|$ and $\|b\|$
at most two ovals in total. If $n$ is even then the reflections corresponding to $C$ contribute to $\|a\|$ and $\|b\|$ at most $t$ ovals in total, where $t$ is the number of even link periods if $s \geq 1$ and some $n_{i}$ is even, and at most two ovals in total in the remaining cases.

Proof. Let $\theta: \Lambda \rightarrow \mathrm{D}_{n}$ be the canonical epimorphism. The case of $n$ odd is trivial; here all canonical reflections belonging to $C$ are conjugate, $C\left(\mathrm{D}_{n}, \theta(c)\right)$ has order 2 and $c \in C(\Lambda, c)$.

Now for $n$ even the centralizer of any non-central element of $\mathrm{D}_{n}$ has order 4. Since $c_{i} \in C\left(\Lambda, c_{i}\right)$, we have $w_{i} \leq 2$, and since $a$ and $b$ are not conjugate, we can assume that either $s \geq 2$, or $s=1$ and $n_{1}$ is even. If $c$ belongs to two odd link periods then we can assume that $c$ contributes to neither $\|a\|$ nor $\|b\|$, while if $c$ belongs to an even link period $n^{\prime}$ and $c c^{\prime}$ has order $n^{\prime}$ then $\left(c c^{\prime}\right)^{n^{\prime} / 2} \in C(\Lambda, c)$. Now $\theta\left(\left(c c^{\prime}\right)^{n^{\prime} / 2} c\right) \neq 1$ since ker $\theta$ is a Fuchsian group and therefore we see that $\theta(C(\Lambda, c))$ has order 4.
3. Bounds for the total number of ovals of two symmetries of a Riemann surface. The starting point for this paper is the result of Bujalance, Costa and Singerman from [1] (see also Natanzon [5]), which we recall below. In this work we show that the natural bound for $n$ not satisfying the divisibility conditions from [1] is attained for arbitrary even $n$. In contrast, for odd $n$ there is a sharper bound, which is attained for arbitrary $n$ not dividing $g-1$ for infinitely many values of $g$.

Theorem 3.1 (Bujalance, Costa, Singerman, Natanzon). Let $a$ and $b$ be two symmetries of a Riemann surface $X$ of genus $g$, whose product has order $n$. Then $a$ and $b$ have at most $2(g-1) / n+4$ and $4 g / n+2$ ovals in total for $n$ odd and even respectively.

Corollary 3.2. Any $(M-q)$ - and $\left(M-q^{\prime}\right)$-symmetries of a Riemann surface of genus $g$ commute for $g \geq q+q^{\prime}+1$.

Proof. Observe that for the total number $t$ of ovals of both symmetries, $t=2 g+2-q-q^{\prime} \geq g+3$. Let $n$ denote the order of the product of our symmetries and assume to the contrary that $n \neq 2$. By Theorem 3.1 for $n$ even we get $g+3 \leq 4 g / n+2 \leq g+2$, a contradiction. For $n$ odd, $g+3 \leq 2(g-1) / n+4 \leq 2(g-1) / 3+4$ and so $g \leq 1$, which is not the case.

The bounds given in the previous theorem were shown in [1] to be attained for arbitrary $n$ and $g$ for which $n$ divides $g-1$ and $4 g$ respectively. Theorem 3.1 gives in particular the bounds $[2(g-1) / n]+4$ and $[4 g / n]+2$ (where [.] denotes the integer part), which we shall study now. In particular, the first bound turns out to be attained only for $n$ dividing $g-1$.

Theorem 3.3. Let $a$ and $b$ be two symmetries of a Riemann surface $X$ of genus $g$, whose product has order $n$. If $n$ is odd and $n$ does not divide
$g-1$, then $a$ and $b$ have at most $[2(g-1) / n]+3$ ovals in total, and this bound is attained for arbitrary $n$ for infinitely many values of $g$.

Proof. Let $t$ denote the total number of ovals of $a$ and $b$, and let $G=$ $\langle a, b\rangle=\mathrm{D}_{n}$. Now $G=\Lambda / \Gamma$ for some surface Fuchsian group $\Gamma$ and an NEC group $\Lambda$ with signature

$$
\left(h ; \pm ;\left[m_{1}, \ldots, m_{r}\right] ;\left\{C_{1}, \ldots, C_{k},\left(n_{1}\right), \ldots,\left(n_{l}\right),(-), .^{m},(-)\right\}\right)
$$

where $C_{i}=\left(n_{i 1}, \ldots, n_{i s_{i}}\right)$ with $s_{i} \geq 2$. Now as $\mu(\Lambda)=2 \pi(g-1) / n$ and $n$ does not divide $g-1$, we see that the signature of $\Lambda$ has link periods or proper periods. If there is a proper period or at least two link periods, then

$$
\begin{aligned}
2 \pi(g-1) / n & =\mu(\Lambda)>2 \pi(k+l+m-2+1 / 2) \\
& \geq \pi(2(k+l+m)-3) \geq \pi(t-3)
\end{aligned}
$$

and so $t \leq[2(g-1) / n]+3$ as $t$ is an integer. Obviously the number of link periods cannot be 1 if $r=0$ as otherwise $\Lambda^{+}=\left(h^{\prime} ; n_{0}\right)$ by (2) for the unique link period $n_{0}$ in the signature of $\Lambda$. As $\Lambda^{+} / \Gamma=\mathrm{Z}_{n}$, the relation $x_{1}^{\prime}\left[a_{1}^{\prime}, b_{1}^{\prime}\right] \ldots\left[a_{h^{\prime}}^{\prime}, b_{h^{\prime}}^{\prime}\right]=1$ in $\Lambda^{+}$would give $\theta\left(x_{1}^{\prime}\right)=1$ for the canonical epimorphism $\theta: \Lambda \rightarrow G$, which is impossible.

We now show that for arbitrary $m$ there exist two symmetries $a$ and $b$ on a Riemann surface $X$ of genus $g=n(m+1)$, whose product has order $n$ and which have $[2(g-1) / n]+3$ ovals in common. Indeed, consider an NEC group with signature

$$
(0 ;+;[-] ;\{(-), \stackrel{m+1}{+},(-),(n, n)\})
$$

and let $\theta: \Lambda \rightarrow \mathrm{D}_{n}$ be an epimorphism defined by $\theta\left(e_{i}\right)=1$ for $i=1, \ldots$, $m+2, \theta\left(c_{i 0}\right)=a$ for $i=1, \ldots, m+1$ and $\theta\left(c_{m+2,0}\right)=\theta\left(c_{m+2,2}\right)=a$, $\theta\left(c_{m+2,1}\right)=b$. Then by the Hurwitz-Riemann formula for $\Gamma=\operatorname{ker} \theta, X=$ $\mathcal{H} / \Gamma$ is a Riemann surface of genus $g$, and by Proposition 2.1 each of the symmetries $a$ and $b$ has $m+2$ ovals.

In contrast to the previous theorem, the bound $[4 g / n]+2$ for $n, g$ not satisfying the divisibility conditions from [1] cannot be improved for $n$ even.

Theorem 3.4. For arbitrary even $n>4$ there are infinitely many values of $g$ for which $n$ does not divide $4 g$ and there exists a Riemann surface of genus $g$ having two symmetries whose product has order $n$, with $[4 g / n]+2$ ovals in total.

Proof. Let $\Lambda$ be an NEC group with signature

$$
(0 ;+;[-] ;\{(-),(2,2 m, 2)\})
$$

and consider an epimorphism $\theta: \Lambda \rightarrow \mathrm{D}_{n}=\left\langle a, b \mid a^{2}, b^{2},(a b)^{n}\right\rangle$ defined by $\theta\left(e_{1}\right)=\theta\left(e_{2}\right)=1, \theta\left(c_{10}\right)=a$ and which sends the reflections corresponding to the unique non-empty period cycle alternately to $b$ and $(a b)^{n / 2-1} a$. As
before $\theta$ defines the configuration of two symmetries of a Riemann surface of genus $g=m n / 2+1$, which have, by Proposition $2.1,2 m+2$ ovals in total.
4. Commutativity of a pair of $(M-q)$ - and $\left(M-q^{\prime}\right)$-symmetries. By Corollary 3.2, a pair of $(M-q)$ - and $\left(M-q^{\prime}\right)$-symmetries of a Riemann surface $X$ of genus $g$ commutes for $g \geq q+q^{\prime}+1$. Now, using the method introduced in Proposition 2.1, we shall show that $q+q^{\prime}+1$ is in fact the minimal lower bound for $g$ which guarantees commutativity of a pair of $(M-q)$ - and $\left(M-q^{\prime}\right)$-symmetries of a Riemann surface $X$ of genus $g$. The only exception is the case of $(M-1)$ - and $(M-g)$-symmetries for $g>2$. Recall that we only consider symmetries with fixed points.

Theorem 4.1. For $2 \leq g \leq q+q^{\prime}$ but $g>2$ and $\left\{q, q^{\prime}\right\}=\{1, g\}$, there exists a Riemann surface of genus $g$, having a pair of non-commuting $(M-q)-$ and $\left(M-q^{\prime}\right)$-symmetries.

Proof. Let $q \leq q^{\prime}$ and observe that $g \geq q^{\prime}$ as both symmetries have ovals.
For $q+q^{\prime}-g \equiv 0 \bmod 4$ consider an NEC group $\Lambda$ with signature

$$
\left(h ;-;[-] ;\left\{\left(2, . . s, 2,4,2, ._{.}^{s^{\prime}}, 2,4\right)\right\}\right),
$$

where $h=\left(q+q^{\prime}-g\right) / 4, s=g-q, s^{\prime}=g-q^{\prime}$, and an epimorphism $\theta: \Lambda \rightarrow G=\mathrm{D}_{4}$ for which $\theta(e)=1, \theta\left(d_{i}\right)=a$ and the consecutive canonical reflections corresponding to the non-empty period cycle are mapped to

$$
\underbrace{a b a b a b a b \ldots a(a b)^{2 s}}_{s+1} \underbrace{b a b a b a b a \ldots b(a b)^{2 s^{\prime}}}_{s^{\prime}+1} a .
$$

Then by the Hurwitz-Riemann formula for $\Gamma=\operatorname{ker} \theta, X=\mathcal{H} / \Gamma$ has genus $g$, and by Proposition 2.1 the symmetries $a$ and $b$ have $g+1-q$ and $g+1-q^{\prime}$ ovals respectively.

For $q^{\prime}+q-g \equiv 2 \bmod 4$ consider an NEC group with signature

$$
\left(h ;-;[2] ;\left\{\left(2, . \stackrel{s}{.}, 2,4,2, . s^{\prime} ., 2,4\right)\right\}\right),
$$

where $h=\left(q^{\prime}+q-2-g\right) / 4, s, s^{\prime}$ are as above, and the epimorphism defined as in the previous case with $\theta(x)=\theta(e)=(a b)^{2}$. As before $\theta$ defines a desired configuration of non-commuting $(M-q)$ - and $\left(M-q^{\prime}\right)$-symmetries of a Riemann surface of genus $g$.

Now let $q^{\prime}+q-g \equiv 3 \bmod 4$. Consider an NEC group with signature

$$
\left(h ;-;[4] ;\left\{\left(2, . \stackrel{s}{.}, 2,4,2, . s^{\prime} ., 2,4\right)\right\}\right),
$$

where $h=\left(q^{\prime}+q-3-g\right) / 4, s, s^{\prime}$ are as above, and an epimorphism defined as follows for the consecutive canonical reflections corresponding to the non-empty period cycle:

$$
\underbrace{a b a b \quad a \quad b a b \ldots a(a b)^{2 s}}_{s+1} \underbrace{b a b a \quad b a b a \ldots b(a b)^{2 s^{\prime}}}_{s^{\prime}+1} b a b
$$

and $\theta(x)=a b, \theta(e)=b a$. Also here $\theta$ gives rise to the configuration of symmetries we looked for.

Now if $q+q^{\prime}-g \equiv 1 \bmod 4$ and $g<q+q^{\prime}-1$ consider an NEC group with signature

$$
\left(h ;-;[2,4] ;\left\{\left(2, . \stackrel{s}{.}, 2,4,2, . s^{\prime} ., 2,4\right)\right\}\right)
$$

where $h=\left(q^{\prime}+q-5-g\right) / 4, s, s^{\prime}$ are as above, and an epimorphism defined for the consecutive canonical reflections corresponding to the non-empty period cycle as follows:

$$
\underbrace{a b a b a b a b \ldots a(a b)^{2 s}}_{s+1} \underbrace{b a b a b a b a \ldots b(a b)^{2 s^{\prime}}}_{s^{\prime}+1} b a b
$$

and $\theta\left(x_{1}\right)=(a b)^{2}, \theta\left(x_{2}\right)=\theta(e)=a b$. As before for $\Gamma=\operatorname{ker} \theta, X=\mathcal{H} / \Gamma$ is a Riemann surface of genus $g$ having two non-commuting $(M-q)$ - and $\left(M-q^{\prime}\right)$-symmetries.

Finally, for $g=q+q^{\prime}-1$ assume first that $q \geq 2$ and let $\Lambda$ be an NEC group with signature

$$
\left(0 ; \pm ;[-] ;\left\{\left(2, \stackrel{q-2}{\sim}, 2,4,2, \stackrel{q^{\prime}-2}{\cdots}, 2,4,4,4\right)\right\}\right)
$$

and an epimorphism $\theta: \Lambda \rightarrow G=\mathrm{D}_{4}$ for which $\theta(e)=1$ and the reflections corresponding to the non-empty period cycle are mapped onto


Here again we get a configuration of two non-commuting symmetries $a$ and $b$, which have $q$ and $q^{\prime}$ ovals respectively. For $g=2,\left\{q, q^{\prime}\right\}=\{1,2\}$, we can take $n=8$; in this case the bound $4 g / n+2$ is attained by Theorem 4 in [1], and one of our symmetries has two ovals and the other has one oval by Theorem 6 from [1].

Theorem 4.2. For $g>2$ any $(M-1)$ - and $(M-g)$-symmetries of a Riemann surface of genus $g$ commute.

Proof. Assume to the contrary that there exists pair $a, b$ of non-commuting $(M-1)$ - and $(M-g)$-symmetries, and let $n>2$ denote the order of their product. Observe that the total number $t$ of ovals of both symmetries is $g+1$.

Obviously $n$ cannot be odd, as in this case the symmetries would be conjugate and so they would have the same number of ovals, which is clearly not the case. So let $n$ be even. By Theorem 3.1 we see that in this case the two symmetries have at most $4 g / n+2$ ovals in total. In particular for $n \geq 8$, $4 g / n+2 \leq g / 2+2$ and so $g+1 \leq g / 2+2$ would be necessary for such symmetries to exist. But then we have $g \leq 2$, which is not the case again.

Assume now that such a pair of symmetries $a, b$ exists for $n=4$, and let $a$ and $b$ have $g$ ovals and 1 oval respectively. Let $\Lambda$ be an NEC group with signature

$$
\left(h ; \pm ;\left[m_{1}, \ldots, m_{r}\right] ;\left\{C_{1}, \ldots, C_{k},(-), . \stackrel{m}{.},(-)\right\}\right)
$$

where $C_{i}=\left(n_{i 1}, \ldots, n_{i s_{i}}\right)$, and set $s=s_{1}+\cdots+s_{k}$. Observe now that if $k=0$, then either $m \geq 3$, or $m=2$ and $h+r \geq 1$. In addition, $2 m \geq t+1$ by Lemma 2.2 , as the symmetry $b$ has exactly one oval. So we have $\pi(g-1) / 2=$ $\mu(\Lambda) \geq 2 \pi(m-2+h+r / 2) \geq 2 \pi(m / 2+(h+m+r) / 2-2) \geq \pi(-1+t) / 2$ and hence $t \leq g$, a contradiction.

For $k \geq 2$ we have $\pi(g-1) / 2=\mu(\Lambda) \geq 2 \pi(m+s / 4) \geq 2 \pi(m / 2+s / 4)$ and as $t \leq s+2 m$, by Lemma 2.2, we get $t \leq g-1$. So we can assume that $k=1$. If $m \geq 2$ then $\pi(g-1) / 2=\mu(\Lambda) \geq 2 \pi(-2+k+m+s / 4) \geq 2 \pi(m / 2+s / 4)$ and as before we have $t \leq g-1$, which is not the case.

Let now $k=m=1$. We can assume $h=r=0$ as otherwise $\pi(g-1) / 2$ $=\mu(\Lambda) \geq 2 \pi(1 / 2+s / 4)=2 \pi(m / 2+s / 4)$ and we would have $t \leq g-1$ as above. Observe now that $s \geq 2$, since otherwise $\Lambda^{+}=\left(h^{\prime} ; n_{0}\right)$ by (2) for the unique link period $n_{0}$ in the signature of $\Lambda$. As $\Lambda^{+} / \Gamma=\mathrm{Z}_{4}$, the relation $x_{1}^{\prime}\left[a_{1}^{\prime}, b_{1}^{\prime}\right] \cdots\left[a_{h^{\prime}}^{\prime}, b_{h^{\prime}}^{\prime}\right]=1$ in $\Lambda^{+}$would give $\theta\left(x_{1}^{\prime}\right)=1$ for the canonical epimorphism $\theta: \Lambda \rightarrow G$, which is impossible. Now if all link periods are equal to 2 then, by Proposition 2.1, the non-empty period cycle contributes ovals only to the symmetry $a$ as $s \geq 2$ and the order of the product of an element conjugate to $a$ and an element conjugate to $b$ is 4 . So by Lemma 2.2 we have $s+2 \geq t+1$, which gives $\pi(g-1) / 2=\mu(\Lambda) \geq \pi s / 2 \geq \pi(t-1) / 2$ and so $t \leq g$, which is not the case. Observe now that if there is a link period 4 , then there has to be another link period 4. Indeed, the conjugates of $a$ have product of order 2 and so $\theta\left(c_{i}\right)$ is conjugate to $b$ for the unique $i$ in the range $0 \leq i \leq s-1$. But then for $i \neq 0, \theta\left(c_{i-1}\right), \theta\left(c_{i+1}\right)$ are conjugates of $a$ and so $n_{i}=n_{i+1}=4$. For $i=0, \theta\left(c_{s}\right)$ is conjugate to $b$, while $\theta\left(c_{1}\right)$ and $\theta\left(c_{s-1}\right)$ are conjugate to $a$, so $n_{1}=n_{s}=4$. In both cases all other link periods are equal to 2 . Thus $\pi(g-1) / 2=\mu(\Lambda) \geq 2 \pi((s-2) / 4+3 / 4)=\pi(s+1) / 2 \geq \pi(t-1) / 2$ since $s+2 \geq t$ by Lemma 2.2 and so $t \leq g$, which is not the case.

So we can assume that $\Lambda$ has signature of the form

$$
\left(h ; \pm ;\left[m_{1}, \ldots, m_{r}\right] ;\left\{\left(n_{1}, \ldots, n_{s}\right)\right\}\right)
$$

and by Proposition 2.1 and Lemma 2.2 we see that $t=s=g+1$. Since both $a$ and $b$ have ovals, it follows, as shown above, that $n_{j}=n_{j+1}=4$ for a unique integer $j$ with $1 \leq j \leq s$ and all other $n_{i}$ are equal to 2 .

Observe first that $h=0$ as otherwise $\pi(g-1) / 2=\mu(\Lambda) \geq 2 \pi((g-1) / 4$ $+3 / 4)$ and so $g+2 \leq g-1$, a contradiction. Now if $r>0$ then we have $\pi(g-1) / 2=\mu(\Lambda) \geq 2 \pi(-1+(g-1) / 4+3 / 4+1 / 2)=\pi g / 2$ and we get $g \leq g-1$, a contradiction again. So finally let $r=0$. Then $\pi(g-1) / 2=$ $\mu(\Lambda)=\pi(g-2) / 2$, and also in this case we get a contradiction.

Observe now that for $n=6, g+1 \leq 2 g / 3+2$ by Theorem 3.1 and so $g \leq 3$. Now for $g=3,4 g / n=2$ is an integer, $4 g / n+2=g+1$ and by Theorems 4 and 6 from [1] each of our symmetries has two ovals, which is not the case.

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