

1040-20-109

Edward C. Turner* (ted@math.albany.edu), Dept. of Math, University at Albany, 1400 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12222. *Test elements and the retract theorem in hyperbolic (in particular Fuchsian) groups.*

We prove that in many, perhaps all, torsion free hyperbolic groups, test elements are precisely those elements not contained in proper retracts. We also show that all Fuchsian groups have this property. (Received January 28, 2008)