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## Exotic maximal surface group representations into $\text{Diff}(\mathbb{S}^1)$

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The Euler class of a surface group representation into  $\text{Diff}(\mathbb{S}^1)$  satisfies the Milnor—Wood inequality, and representations with maximal Euler class are semi-conjugated to Fuchsian representations by a theorem of Matsumoto. In higher regularity, Ghys proved a stronger rigidity theorem: for  $k \geq 3$ , a maximal circle action by diffeomorphisms of class  $C^k$  is  $C^k$ -conjugated to some Fuchsian action. In particular it is minimal, dilating, and Hölder conjugated to any Fuchsian action. I will explain that all these results fail in regularity  $C^1$ , by associating « exotic » maximal  $C^1$  actions to discrete and faithful surface group representations into  $\text{PSL}(2, \mathbb{C})$ . This is based on discussions with Selim Ghazouani and Françoise Dal'bo.

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