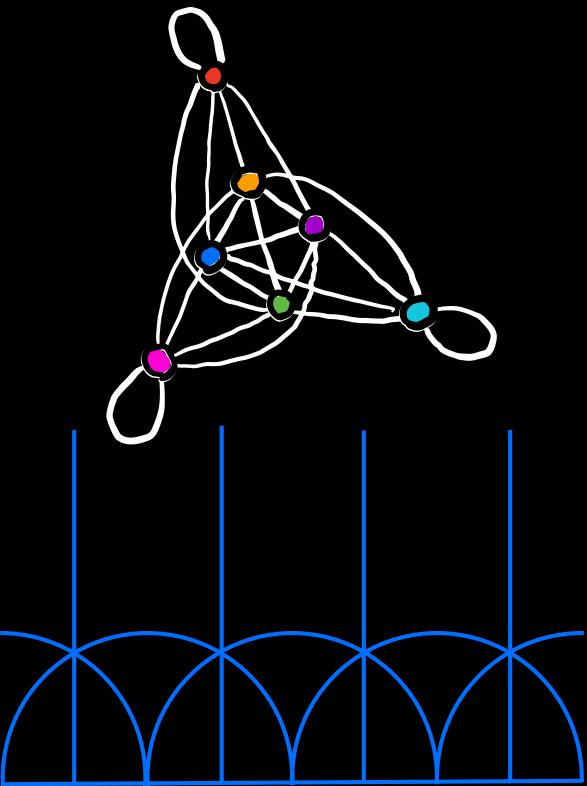
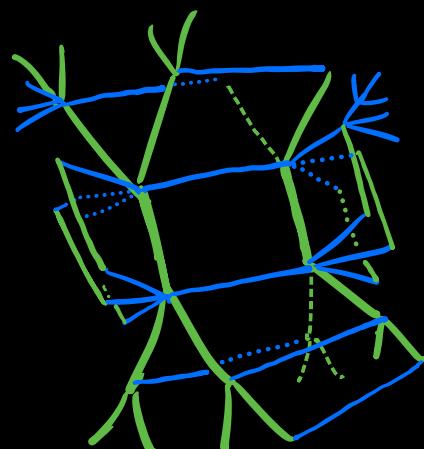
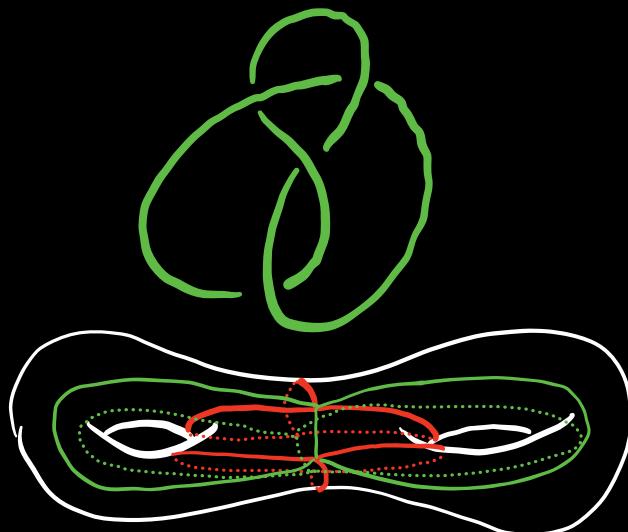


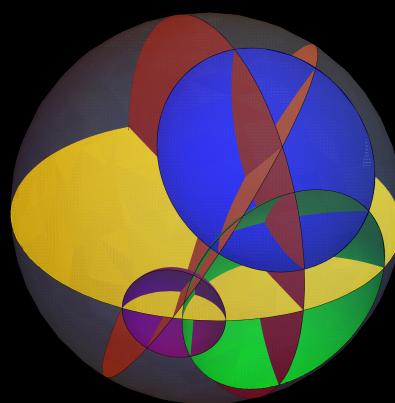
10/4/23

Two-by-Two Matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$$



University of
San Francisco
Colloquium



Nic Brody
UC Santa Cruz

Motivation (for experts)

Low-dimensional topologists are quite interested in understanding "hyperbolic 3-manifolds" - which are essentially the same as "discrete subgroups of $PSL_2 \mathbb{C}$ "

Largely, this talk is concerned
with — What happens if we
drop the discreteness assumption?

A We can construct a
higher-dimensional space, and
use discreteness there to
understand the group!

- Part I Rotations of
the sphere
- Part II Continued Fractions
- Part III Matrices + Quaternions
- Part IV Classification of linear
(matrix) groups (?)

We will begin by studying
two seemingly unrelated
dynamical systems, and then
relate them to questions about
2-by-2 matrices

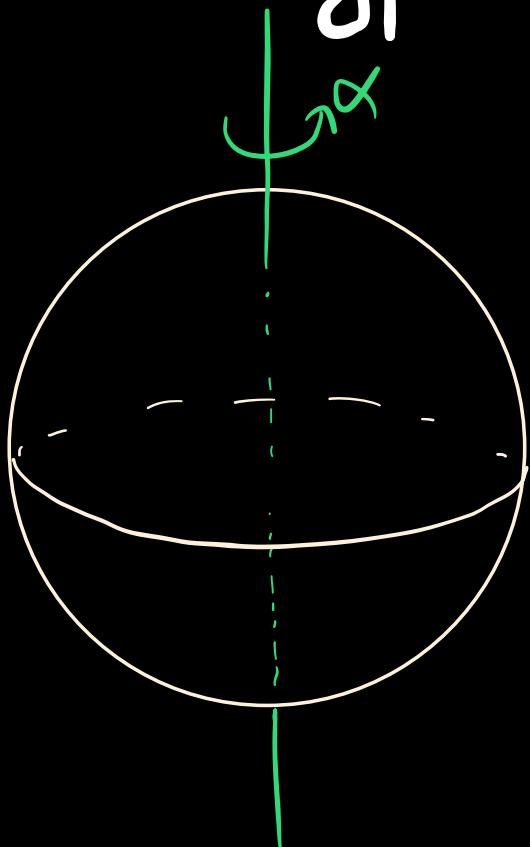
Part I

Spinning in Circles

Suppose you have a globe,
and you are allowed to make
four types of moves:



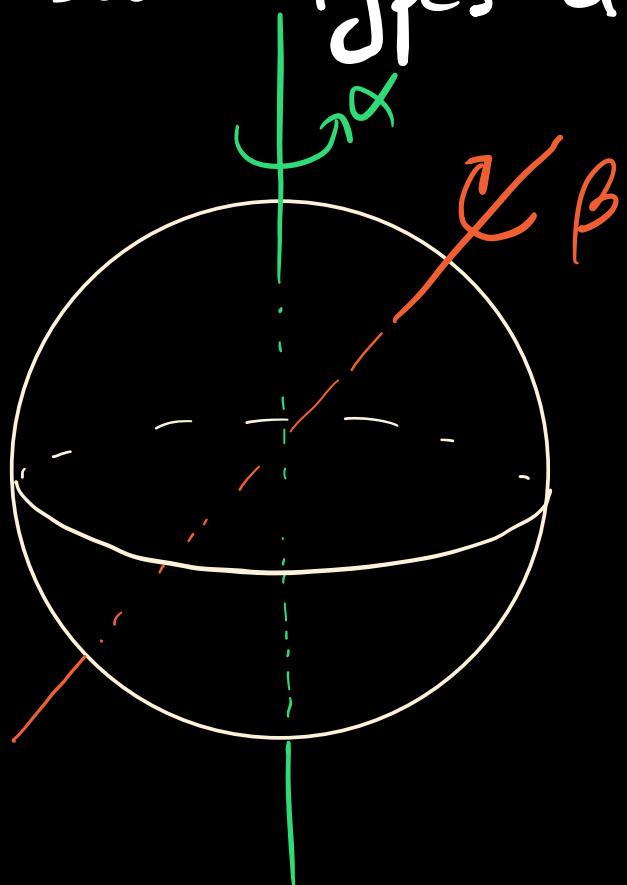
Suppose you have a globe,
and you are allowed to make
four types of moves:



You can rotate by
a fixed angle α about
the green axis in
either direction

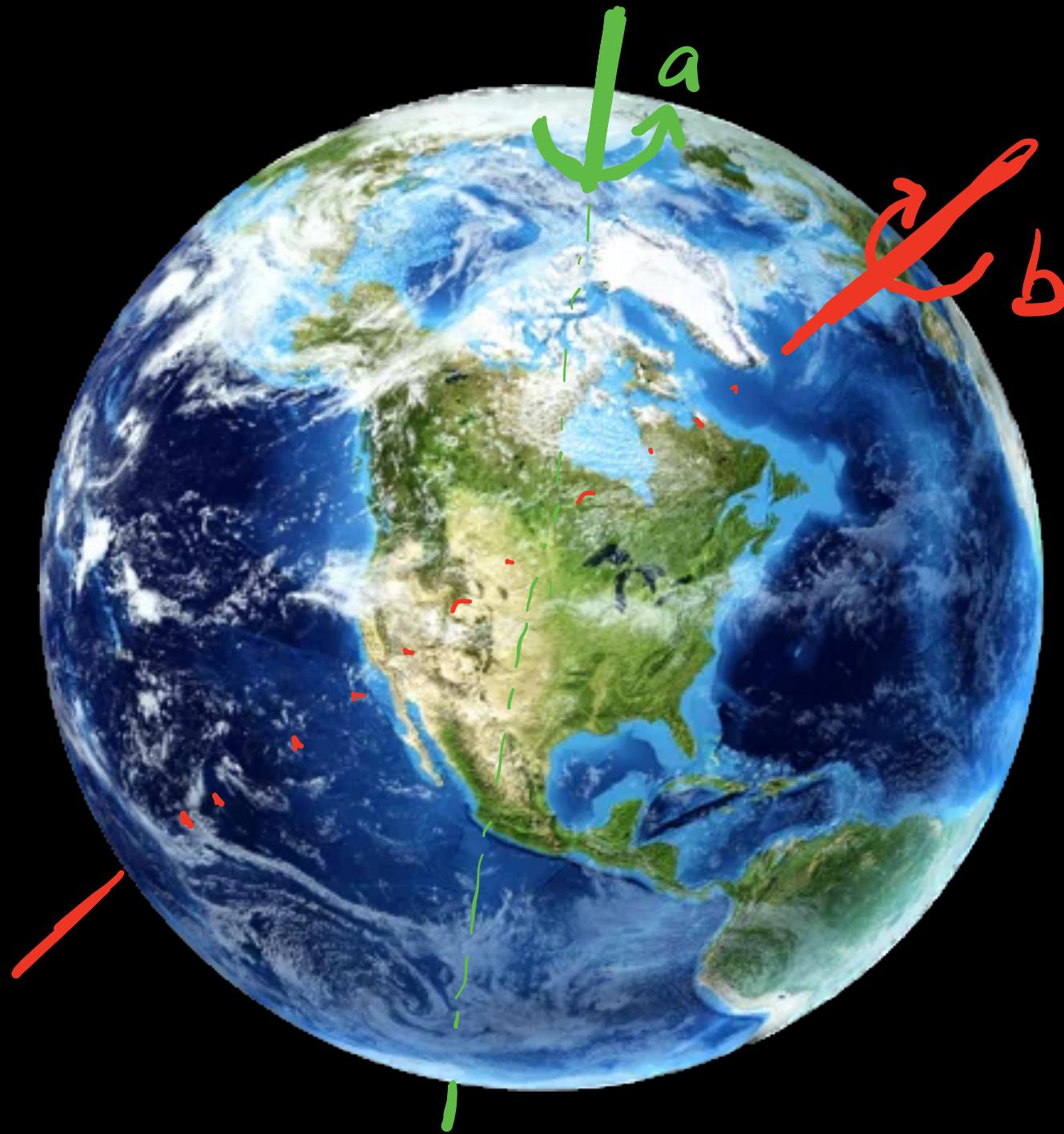
Call these rotations
 a, a^{-1}

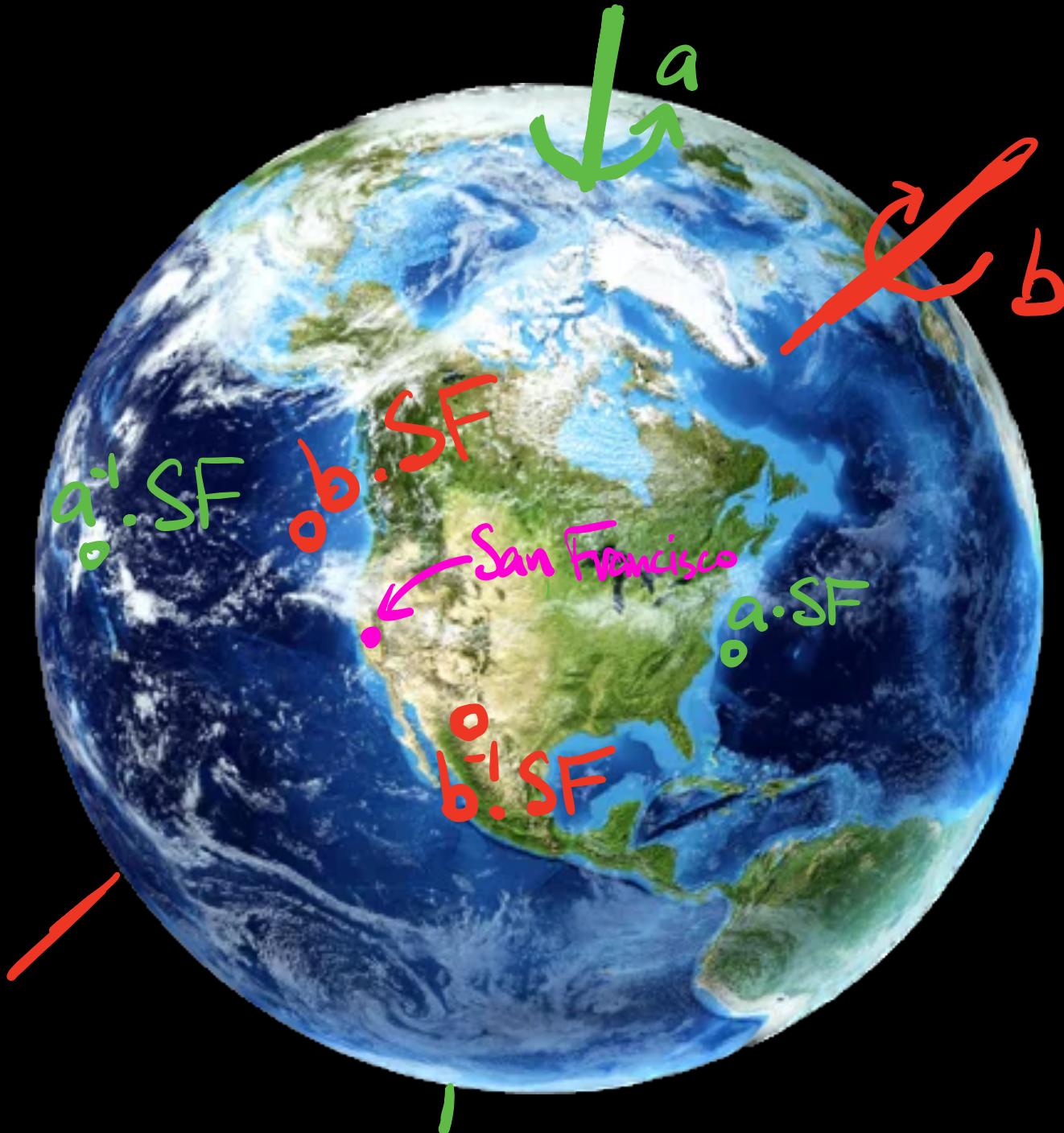
Suppose you have a globe,
and you are allowed to make
four types of moves:

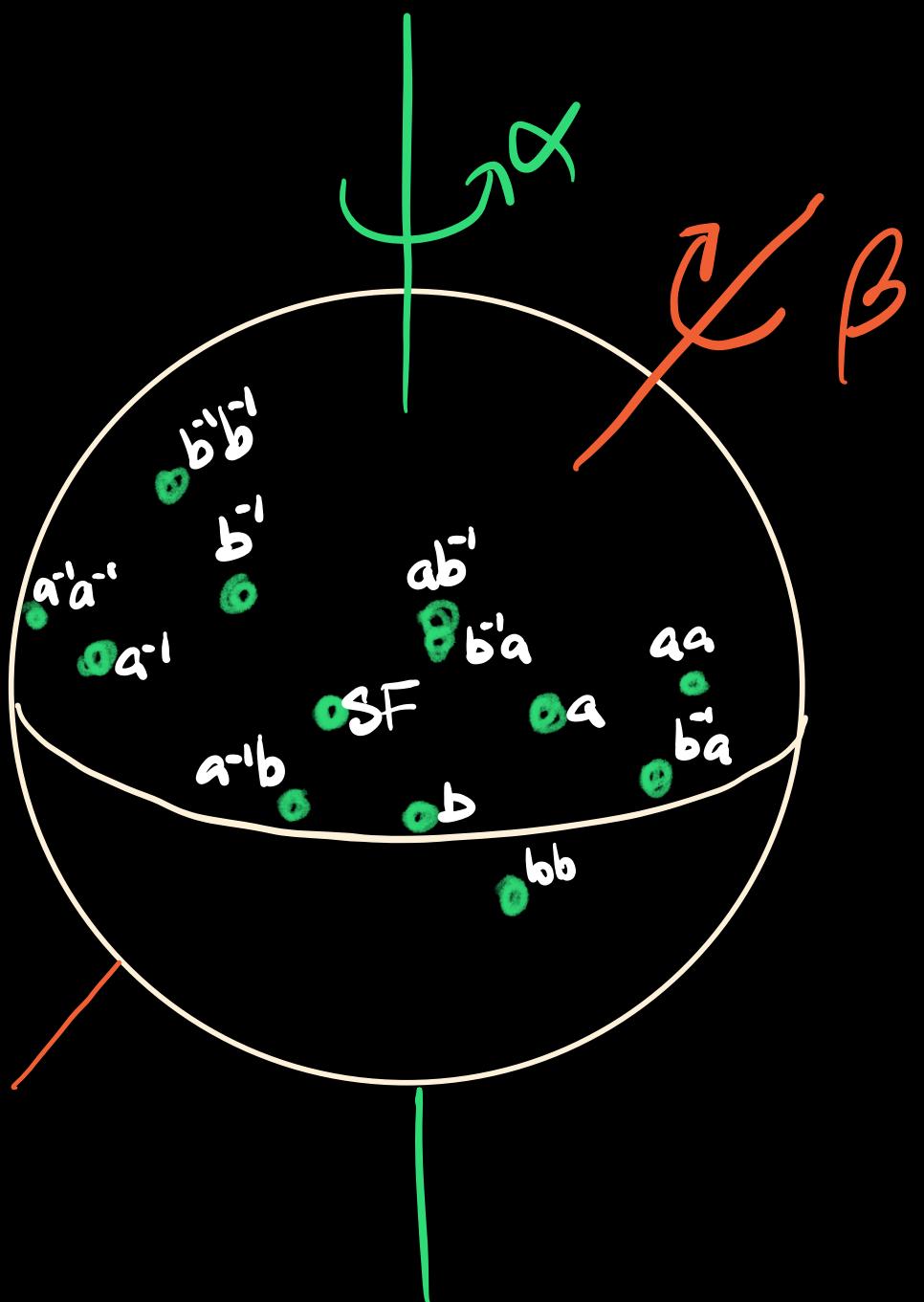


You can rotate by
a fixed angle β about
the red axis in
either direction

$$b, b^{-1}$$



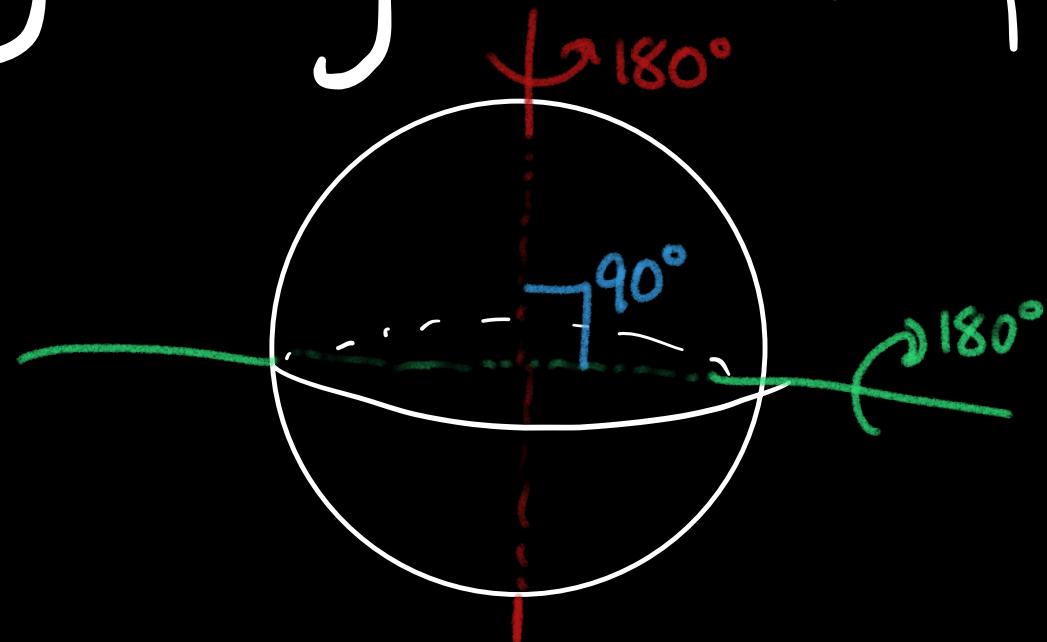


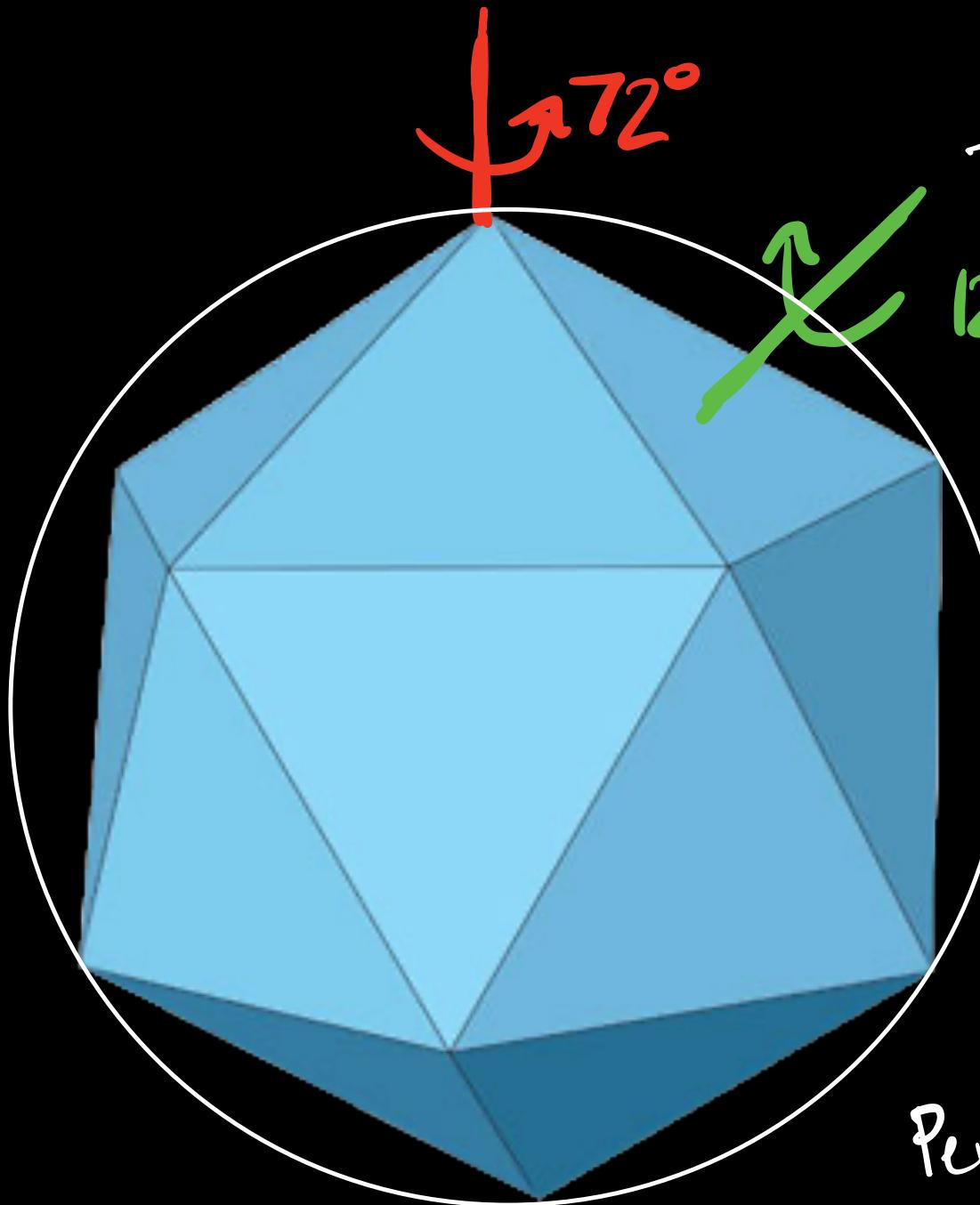


We now ask:
which points on the globe
can be reached via a
sequence of these moves?

For example - is it possible
to move San Francisco onto
Santa Cruz?

If you are incredibly precise with the choice of axes and angles, you may have only finitely many rotations possible:

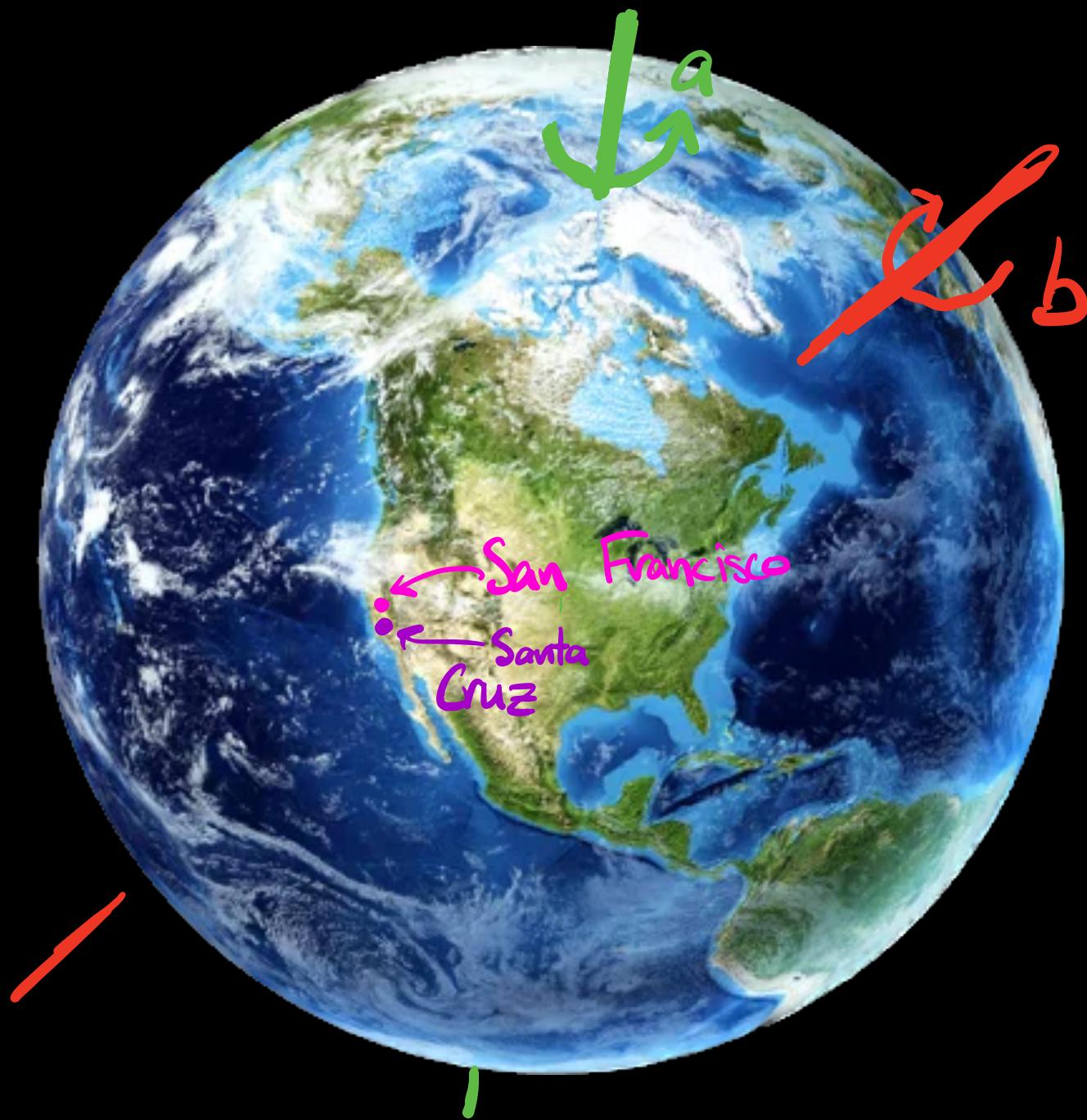




Since these two rotations send vertices to vertices, there are only finitely many rotations attainable!

Permutates the 12 vertices

However, if the parameters are chosen "randomly," there is a 100% chance that there will be infinitely many rotations that can be achieved by composing sequences of our four moves



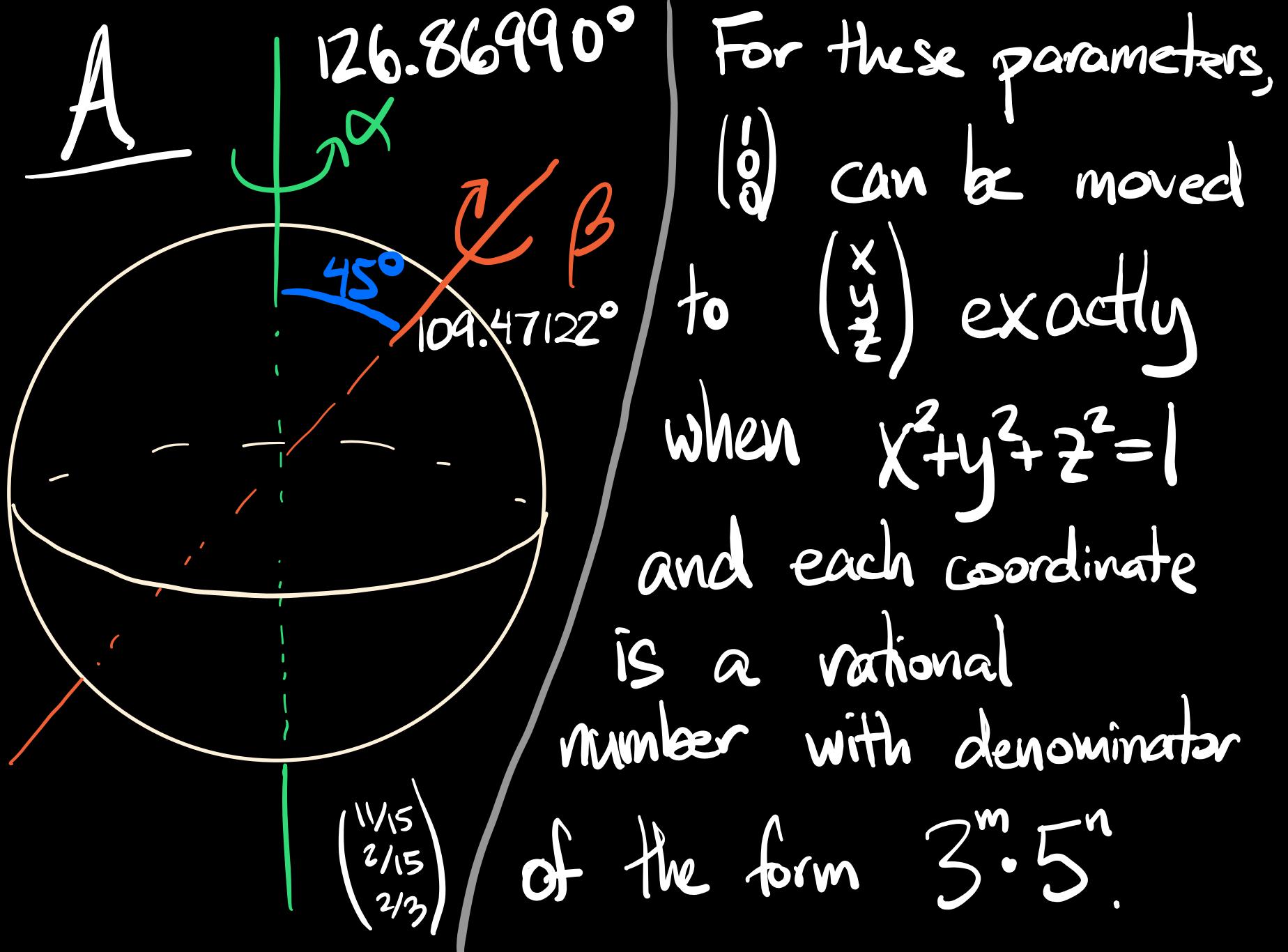
A With 100% probability
in the choice of moves, it is
always possible to move San Francisco
on top of Santa Cruz.

In fact, for any choice
of two atoms on the surface
of the earth, it will be possible
to move one to overlap the
other via a finite sequence
of moves!

(we will ignore important quantum
mechanical questions raised here)

However, this is a math talk,
and we are pickier than
that... We would like to know
exactly which points can be
moved to which points!

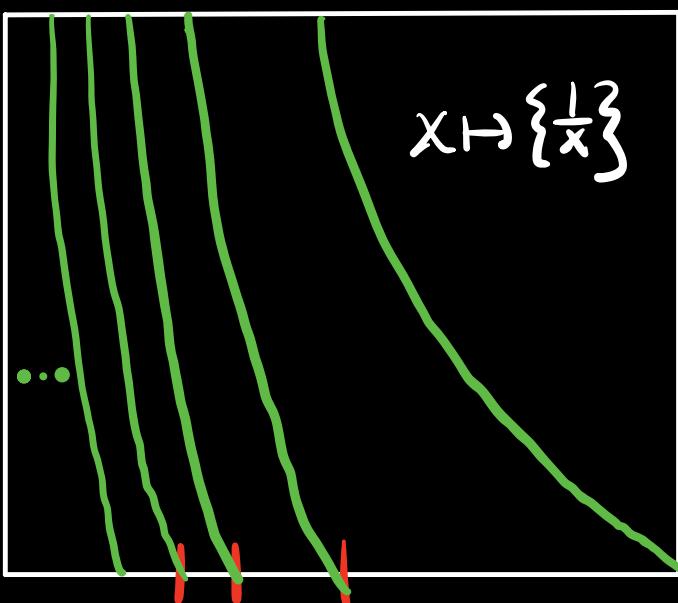
Note the set of points
on the sphere is uncountable,
while the set of points we
can reach from our game
is countable. Is it possible
to describe the set of
reachable points?



Before attempting to
explain how we are
able to answer this
question, we now look
at another type of problem...

Part II

Continued Fractions



Define $\frac{1}{0} = \infty$, $\frac{1}{\infty} = 0$.
 $\infty \pm 1 = \infty$.

Q Which numbers can
be obtained from ∞ via
a sequence of the operations

$$x \mapsto \frac{1}{x}$$

$$x \mapsto x + 1$$

$$x \mapsto x - 1$$

?
?

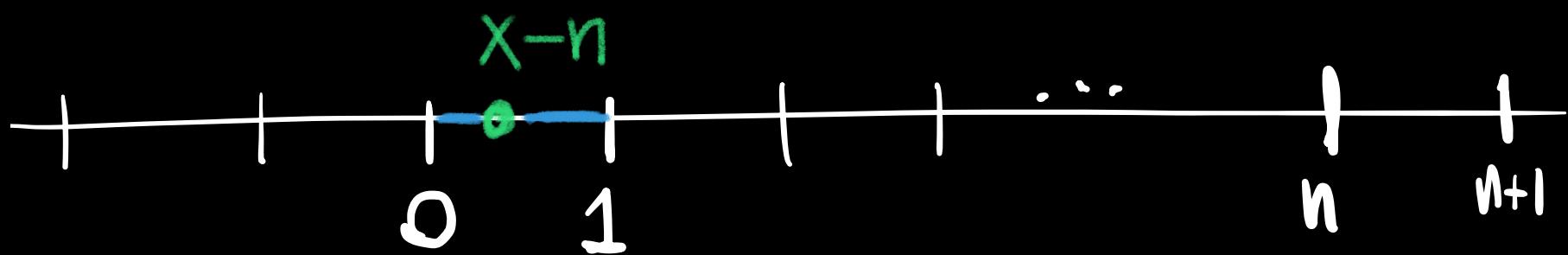
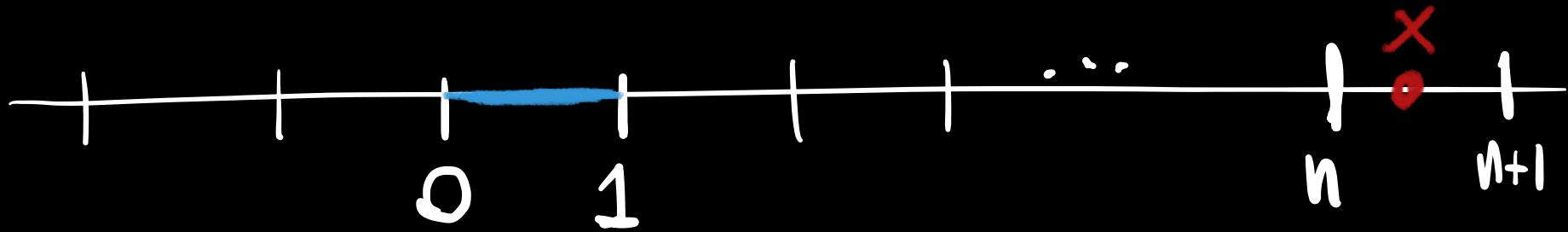
Step 1 For any real number x ,
there is a unique integer a ,
so that $0 \leq x - a < 1$.

Eg $0 \leq \pi - 3 < 1$

$$0 \leq \frac{11}{2} - 5 < 1$$

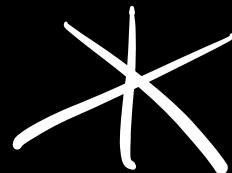
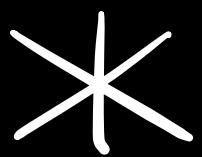
$$0 \leq \sqrt{2} - 1 < 1$$

$$0 \leq -5 + 5 < 1$$



Step 2 If $x-a_1 \neq 0$, invert it.

Apply Step 1 to $\frac{1}{x-a_1}$ (if $x-a_1=0$,
done)



If $0 < x < 1$ is rational,
Numerator (x) < Denominator (x).

Hence, the denominator
of $\frac{1}{x}$ is smaller than that
of x .

Since shifting by an integer does not change the denominator, this process must eventually terminate!

$$\frac{40}{31} \xrightarrow{-1} \frac{9}{31} \xrightarrow{\text{Invert}} \frac{31}{9}$$

$$\xrightarrow{-3} \frac{4}{9} \xrightarrow{\text{Invert}} \frac{9}{4}$$

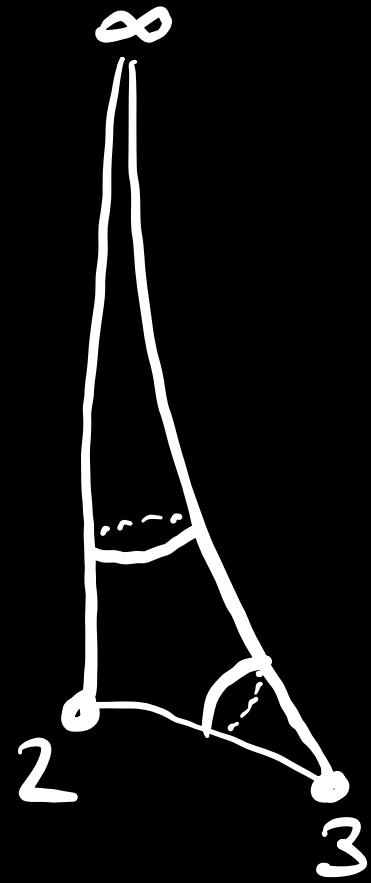
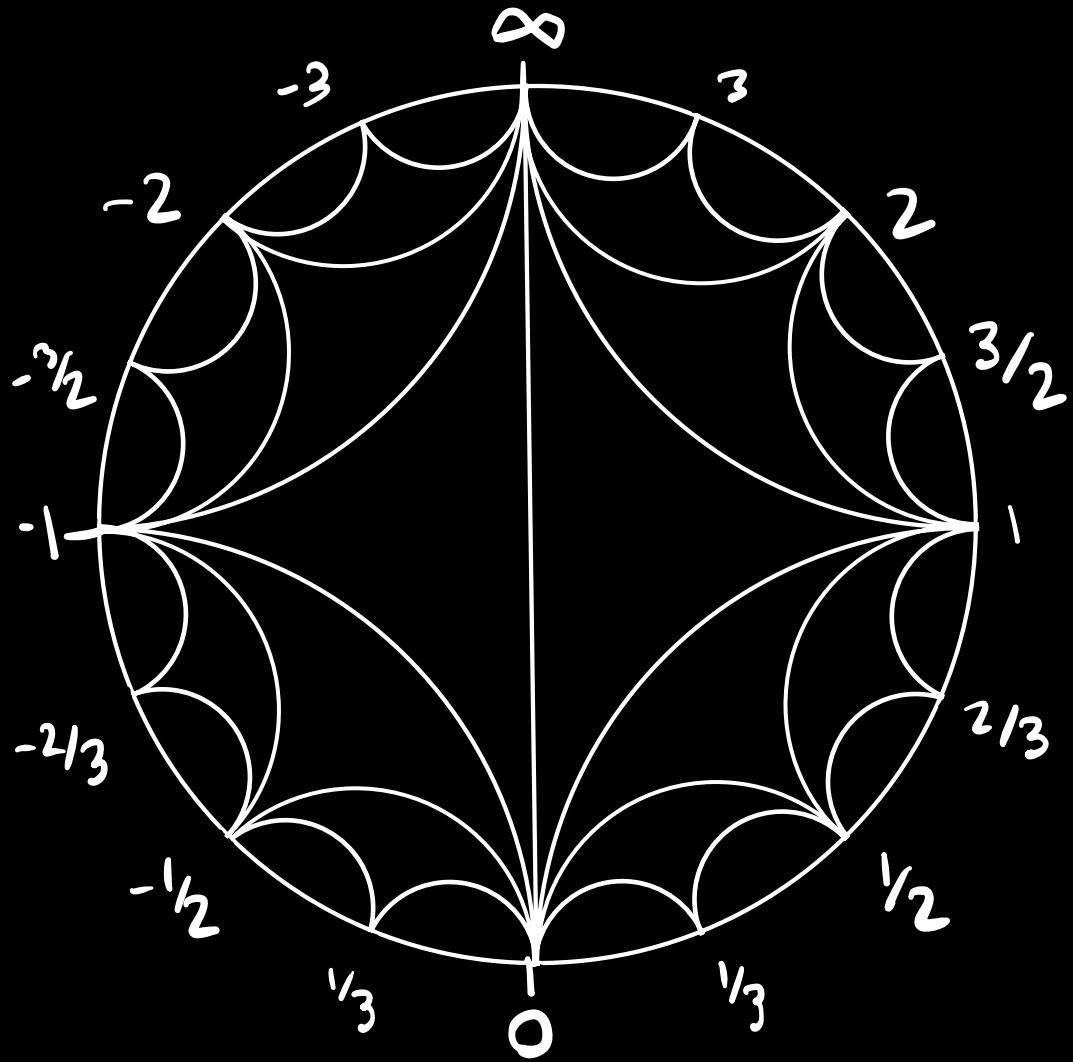
$$\xrightarrow{-2} \frac{1}{4} \xrightarrow{\text{Invert}} 4$$

$$\xrightarrow{-4} 0 \xrightarrow{\text{Invert}} \infty$$

Reversing this process, we see

$$1 + \cfrac{1}{3 + \cfrac{1}{2 + \cfrac{1}{4}}} = \frac{40}{31}$$

Cons Every rational number
can be written $a_0 + \cfrac{1}{a_1 + \cfrac{1}{a_2 + \dots + \cfrac{1}{a_k}}}$
 $a_0 \in \mathbb{Z}, a_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}.$



This has been understood
for centuries. However, what
if we replace the operations
with

$$x \xrightarrow{A} 2x$$
$$x \xrightarrow{A'} \frac{x}{2}$$

$$x \xrightarrow{R} \frac{x-1}{x+1} ?$$

We will now prove that
choosing different operations can
sometimes produce a different
continued fraction algorithm!

We will say a fraction

$\frac{p}{q}$ is simpler than $\frac{p'}{q'}$

if $\max\{|p|, |q|\} < \max\{|p'|, |q'|\}$

when written in reduced form

(and no more complicated if \leq)

Eg $\frac{99}{100}$ is simpler than $\frac{1}{101}$.

$\frac{48}{96}$ is simpler than $\frac{1}{3}$.

$\frac{4}{5}$ is no more complicated than $\frac{1}{5}$.

Important Observation

If p, q are odd and $|p| \neq |q|$

$\frac{p-q}{p+q}$ is simpler than $\frac{p}{q}$.

Pf Since p, q are both odd,
 $p+q$ and $p-q$ are both even.

Therefore, $\frac{p-q}{p+q} = R\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)$ simplifies
to $\frac{\left(\frac{p-q}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{p+q}{2}\right)}$, and

$$\max \left\{ \left| \frac{p-q}{2} \right|, \left| \frac{p+q}{2} \right| \right\} < \max \{ |p|, |q| \}$$



We also note: If
the denominator is even,

$$A\left(\frac{p}{q}\right) = 2 \cdot \frac{p}{q} = \frac{p}{(q_2)} \text{ is}$$

no more complicated than $\frac{p}{q}$

(Similarly, if p even, $A^{-1}\left(\frac{p}{q}\right)$ is
no more complicated)

Algorithm

	p even	p odd
q even	Not reduced	$2 \frac{p}{q}$ is nmc
q odd	$\frac{1}{2} \frac{p}{q}$ nmc	$\frac{p-q}{p+q}$ is simpler

Apply until we reach $|p|=|q|=1$.

$$\frac{13}{28} \xrightarrow{A^2} \frac{13}{7} \xrightarrow{R} \frac{6}{20} = \frac{3}{10}$$

$$\xrightarrow{A} \frac{3}{5} \xrightarrow{R} \frac{-2}{8} = -\frac{1}{4}$$

$$\xrightarrow{A^2} -1 \xrightarrow{R} \frac{-2}{0} = \infty$$

Thus, every rational number
can be reached from α
via the operations!

This is supposed to be
a talk about 2-by-2 matrices,
and so far none have
shown up!

Part III

Matrices + Quaternions

Note that 2-by-2 matrices
can operate on vectors $\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix}$

Via $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} au+ bv \\ cu+ dv \end{pmatrix}$.

This preserves "scaling" $g.(xv) = \lambda(g.v)$

They can hence operate on
"slopes" $\frac{u}{v}$ of vectors $\begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix}$

We'll focus on the case of
matrices with rational entries, so
that the slope is either a rational
number or ∞ .

Under $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} x = \frac{ax+b}{cx+d}$

we have $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} x = x + 1$

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} x = x - 1$ $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} x = \frac{1}{x}$

Multiplying matrices corresponds
to composing functions.

We can now translate

$$\left\| 1 + \frac{1}{3 + \frac{1}{2 + \frac{1}{4}}} = \frac{40}{31} \right\|$$

to

$$\left\| \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 40 & 9 \\ 31 & 7 \end{pmatrix} \right\|$$

The operations

$$x \mapsto 2x, \quad x \mapsto \frac{x-1}{x+1}$$

are then represented by

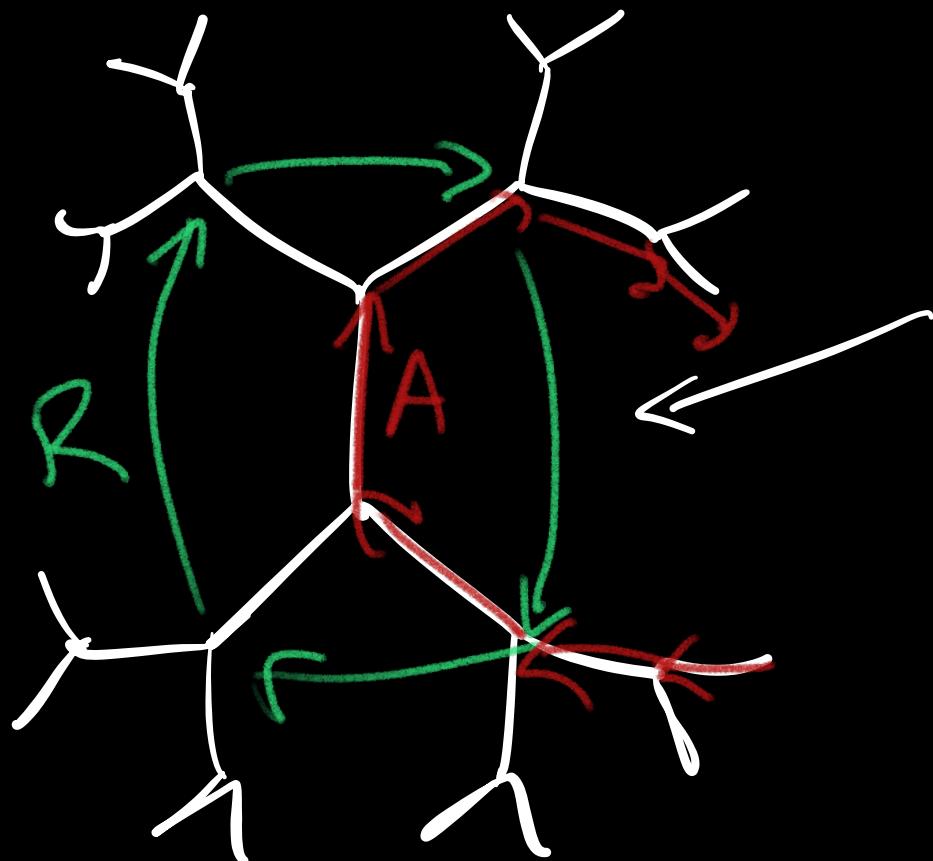
$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\frac{13}{7} \xrightarrow{R} \frac{13-7}{13+7} = \frac{6}{20} = \frac{3}{10} \xrightarrow{A}$$

$$\frac{3}{5} \xrightarrow{R} \frac{-2}{8} = \frac{-1}{4} \xrightarrow{A^2} \frac{-1}{1} \xrightarrow{R} \frac{-2}{0} = \infty$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{-1}{8} \begin{pmatrix} 13 & -11 \\ 7 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1 + \frac{1 + \frac{1 - \nu_4}{1 + \nu_4}}{2(1 - \frac{1 - \nu_4}{1 + \nu_4})}}{1 - \frac{1 + \frac{1 - \nu_4}{1 + \nu_4}}{2(1 - \frac{1 - \nu_4}{1 + \nu_4})}} = \frac{13}{7} \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} 13 & -11/64 \\ 7 & -1/64 \end{pmatrix} \in G.$$



gives another
continued fraction
calculator!

Conj Suppose $\Gamma \leq \mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{Q})$

is a lattice in a completion of \mathbb{Q} .

Then $\mathbb{Q}\mathbb{P}^1/\Gamma$ is finite

(True for $\begin{cases} \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle \leq \mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{R}) \\ \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle \leq \mathrm{PGL}_2(\mathbb{Q}_2) \end{cases}$)

Prop If a, b, c, d are real

numbers with $a^2+b^2+c^2+d^2=1$,

the matrix $\begin{pmatrix} a+bi & c+di \\ -c+di & a-bi \end{pmatrix}$

determines a rotation of

the sphere, and multiplying

such matrices corresponds to
concatenating rotations

* It is somewhat miraculous
that we can take two
solutions to $a^2+b^2+c^2+d^2=1$
and produce another! *

Similarly, if $a^2+b^2=x^2+y^2=1$,
 $(ax-by)^2 + (ay+bx)^2 = 1$

We will let the expression

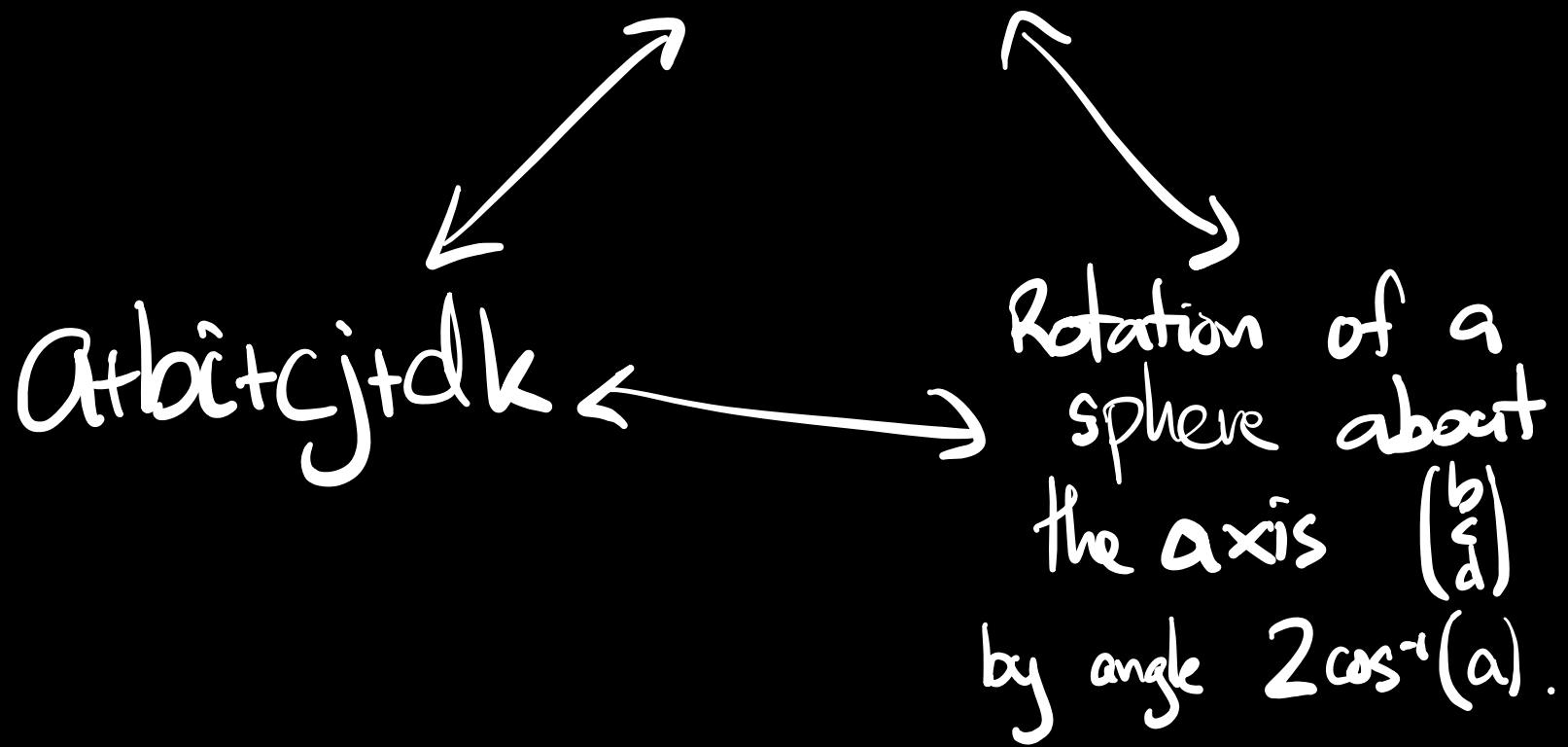
" $a+bi+cj+dk$ " be shorthand

for the matrix

$$a \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + b \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{-1} \end{pmatrix} + c \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + d \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \sqrt{-1} \\ \sqrt{-1} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

We have a dictionary

$$\begin{pmatrix} a+bi & ct\alpha \\ -ct\alpha & a-bi \end{pmatrix}$$



Defn If S is a finite set of 2-by-2 matrices, $\langle S \rangle$ will denote the set of all matrices one can obtain by multiplying matrices in S and their inverses.

We will call this set of
matrices "the group generated
by S "

Operations

If $g_1 = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ c_1 & d_1 \end{pmatrix}$, $g_2 = \begin{pmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ c_2 & d_2 \end{pmatrix}$,

their product is

$$g_1 g_2 = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 d_2 + b_1 c_2 & a_1 b_2 + b_1 d_2 \\ c_1 a_2 + d_1 c_2 & a_1 b_2 + d_1 d_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

In particular — if A is a set of numbers closed under addition and multiplication, then

$g_1 g_2$ has entries in A

Moreover, if $\frac{1}{ad-bc}$ is in A ,

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{ad-bc} \begin{pmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic

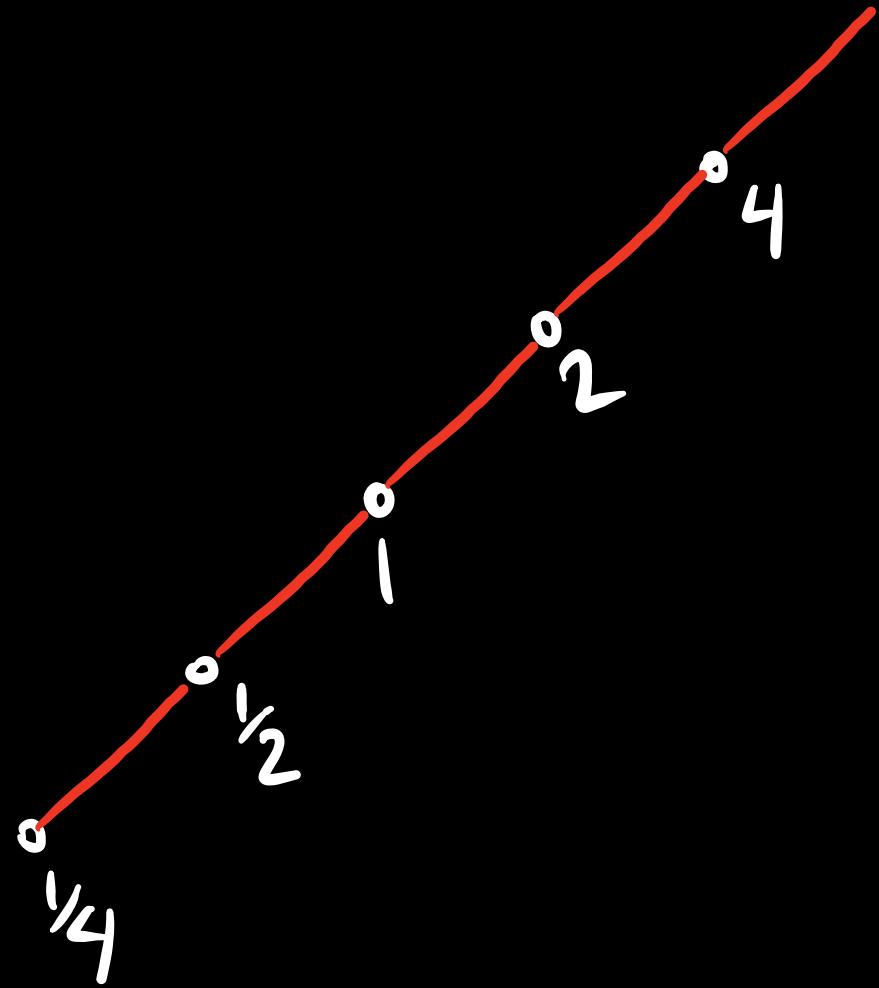
Every positive integer can be expressed uniquely as a product of primes

Geometric Interpretation

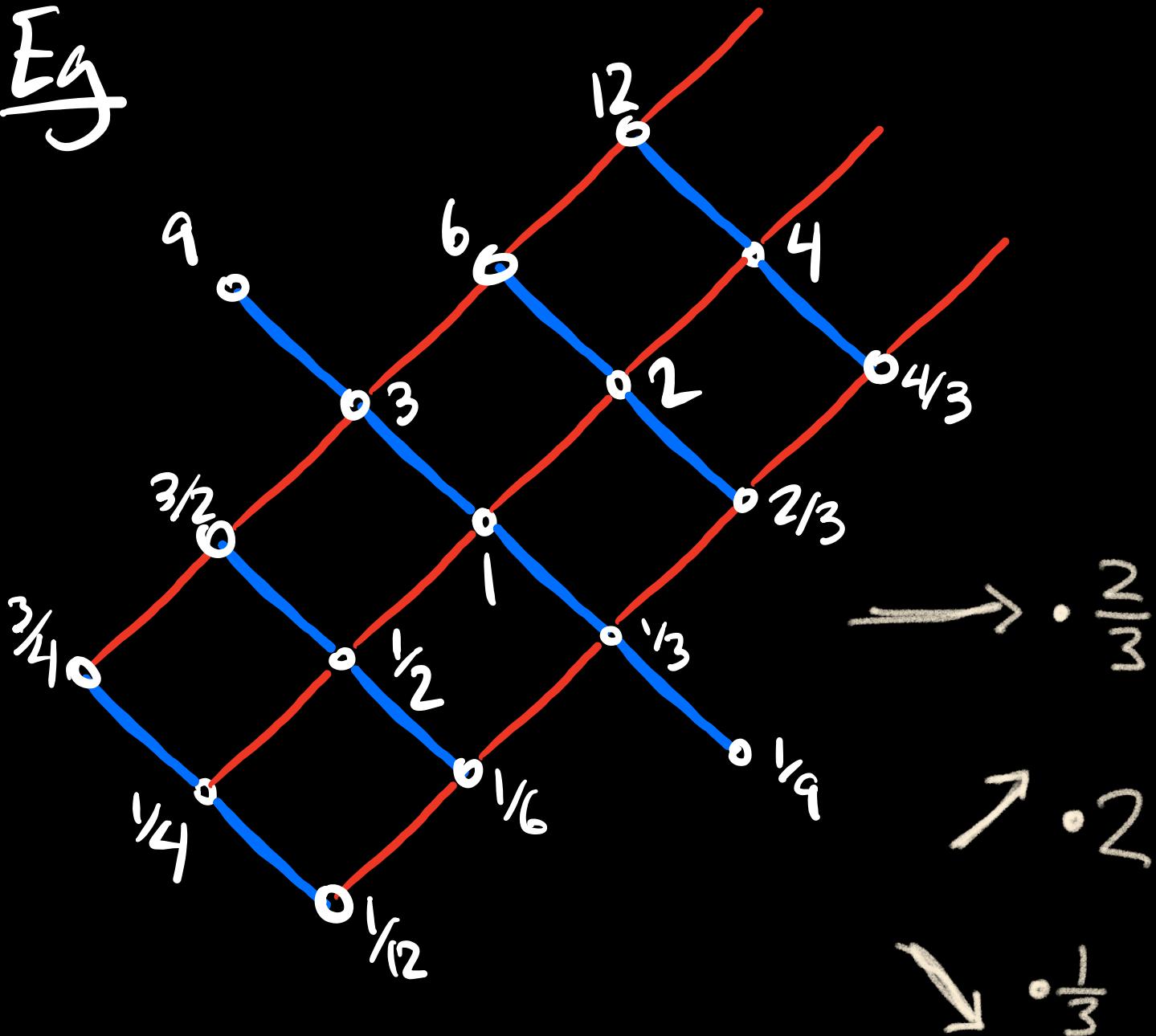
We can arrange the positive rationals in an infinite-dimensional grid.

Multiplying by a given rational $\frac{p}{q}$ will act as a translation on this grid.

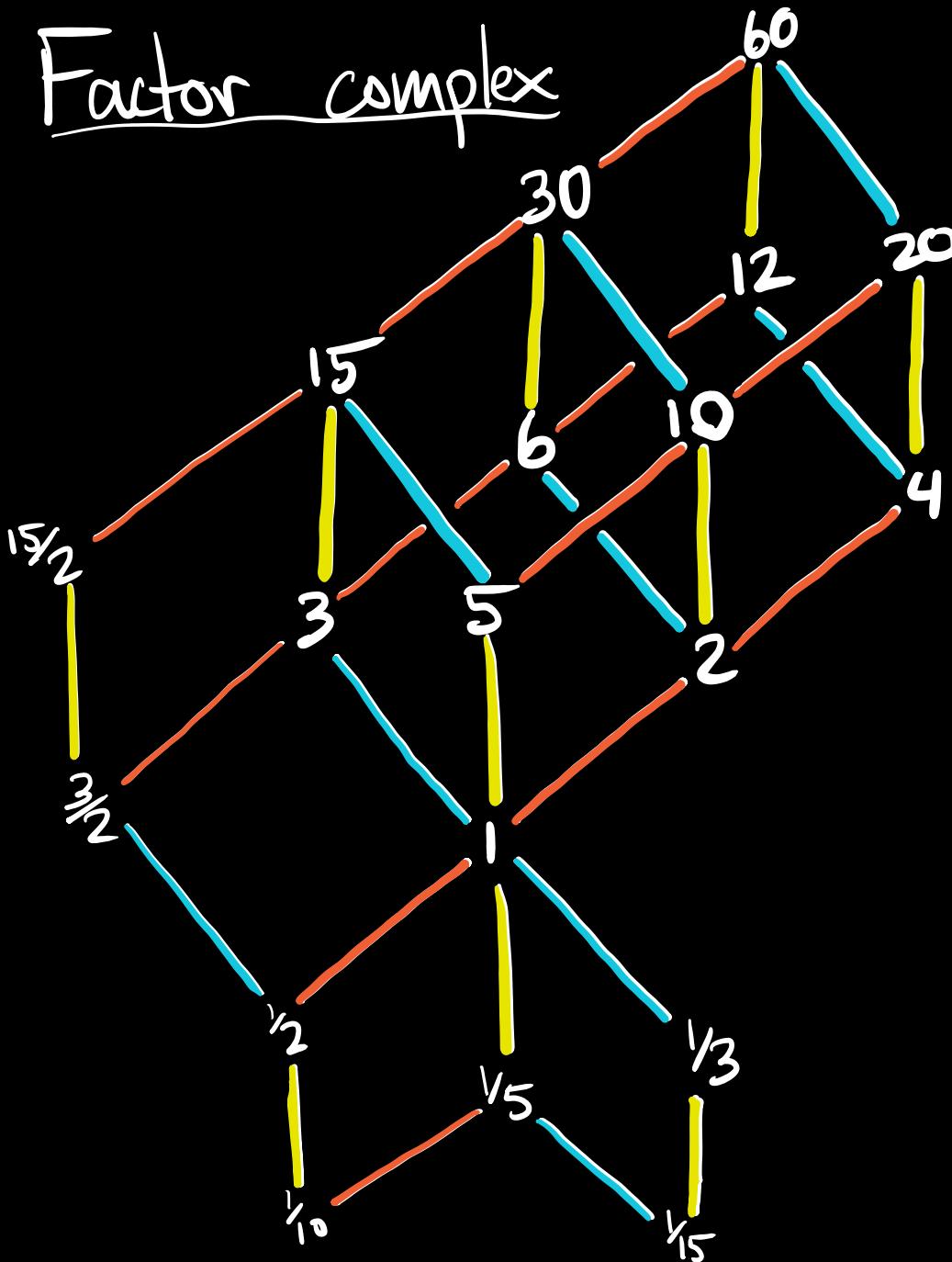
Eg



Eg



Factor complex



Fundamental theorem of quaternion arithmetic

ahh!

Let q be a primitive integer quaternion.

If p is an odd prime dividing $N(q)$,

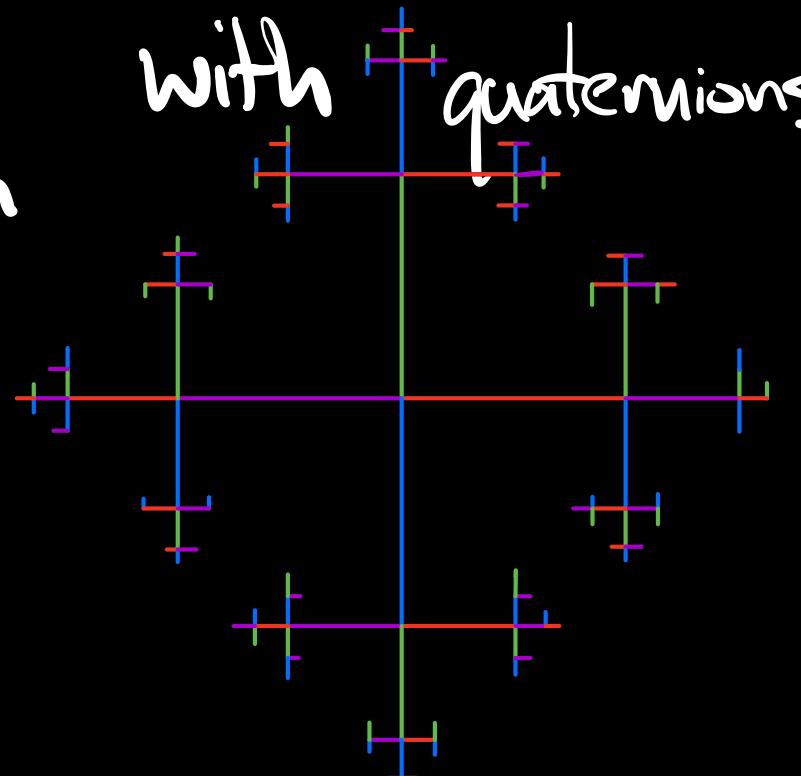
there is a unique quaternion of norm p scary!

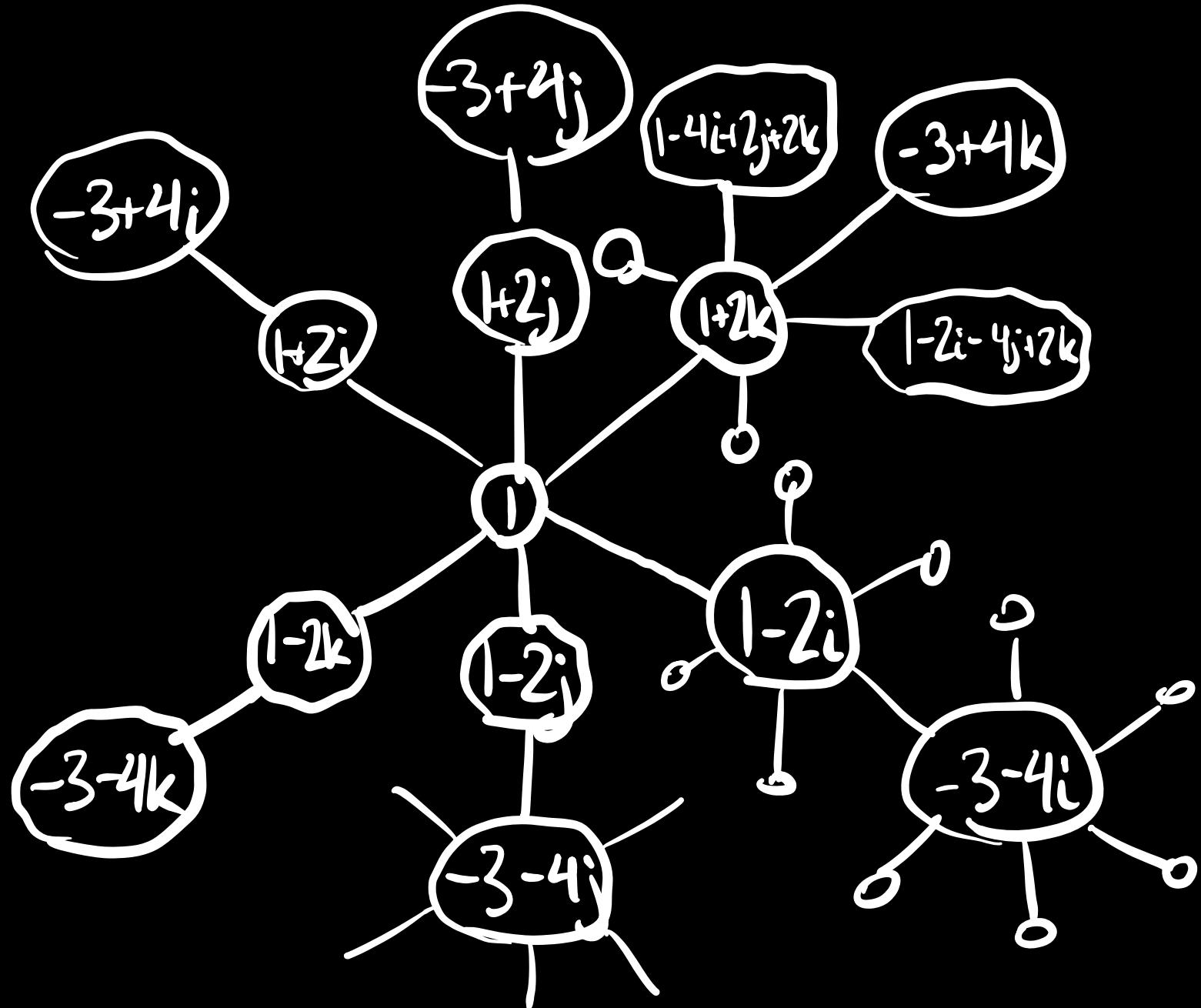
(up to associates) which left-divides q .

Thm (Jacobi) The number of representations
of an odd prime p as a sum of
four squares is $8(p+1)$

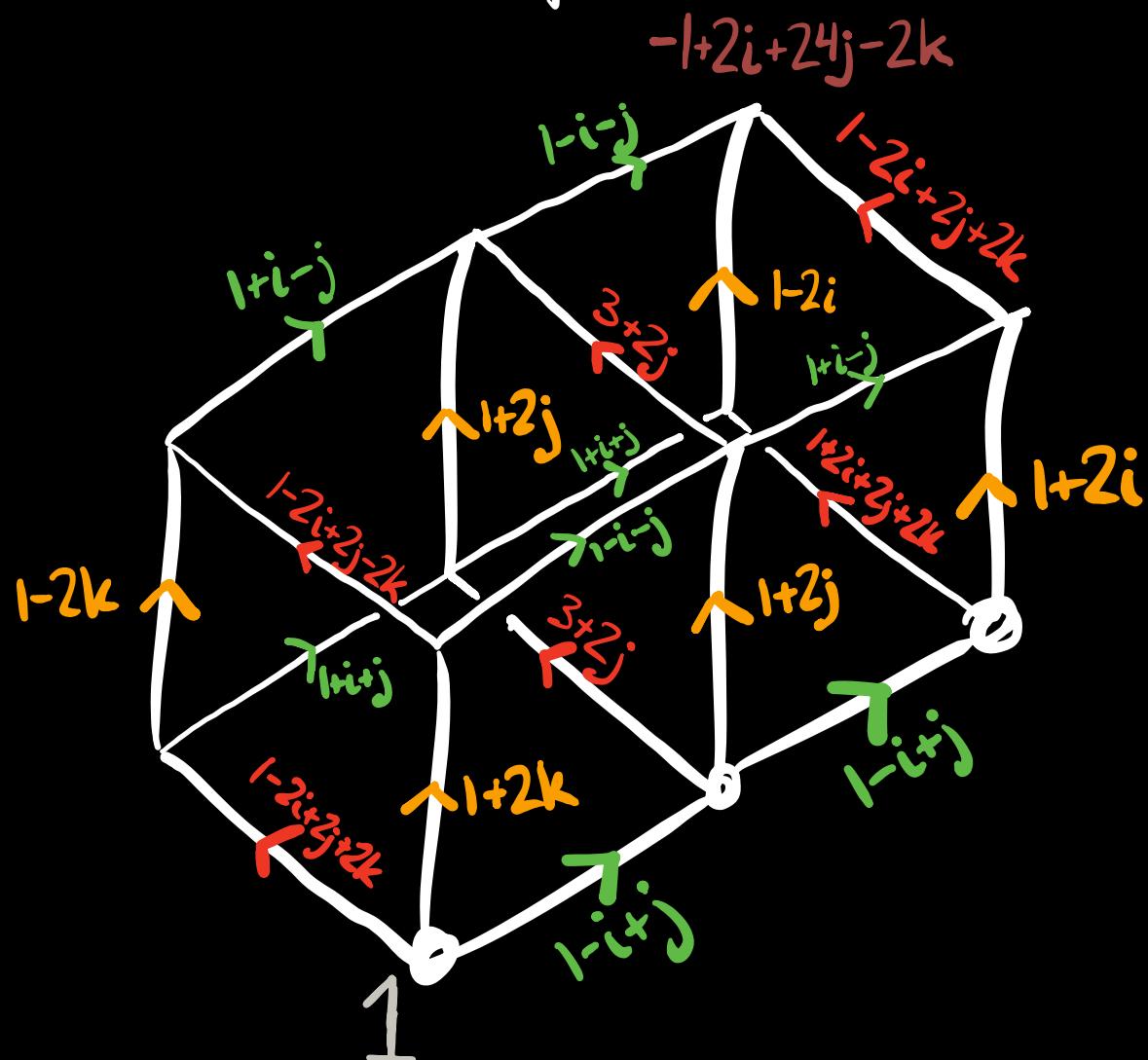
Consequence

For an odd prime p , we can label the vertices of an infinite tree with quaternions of norm p^n

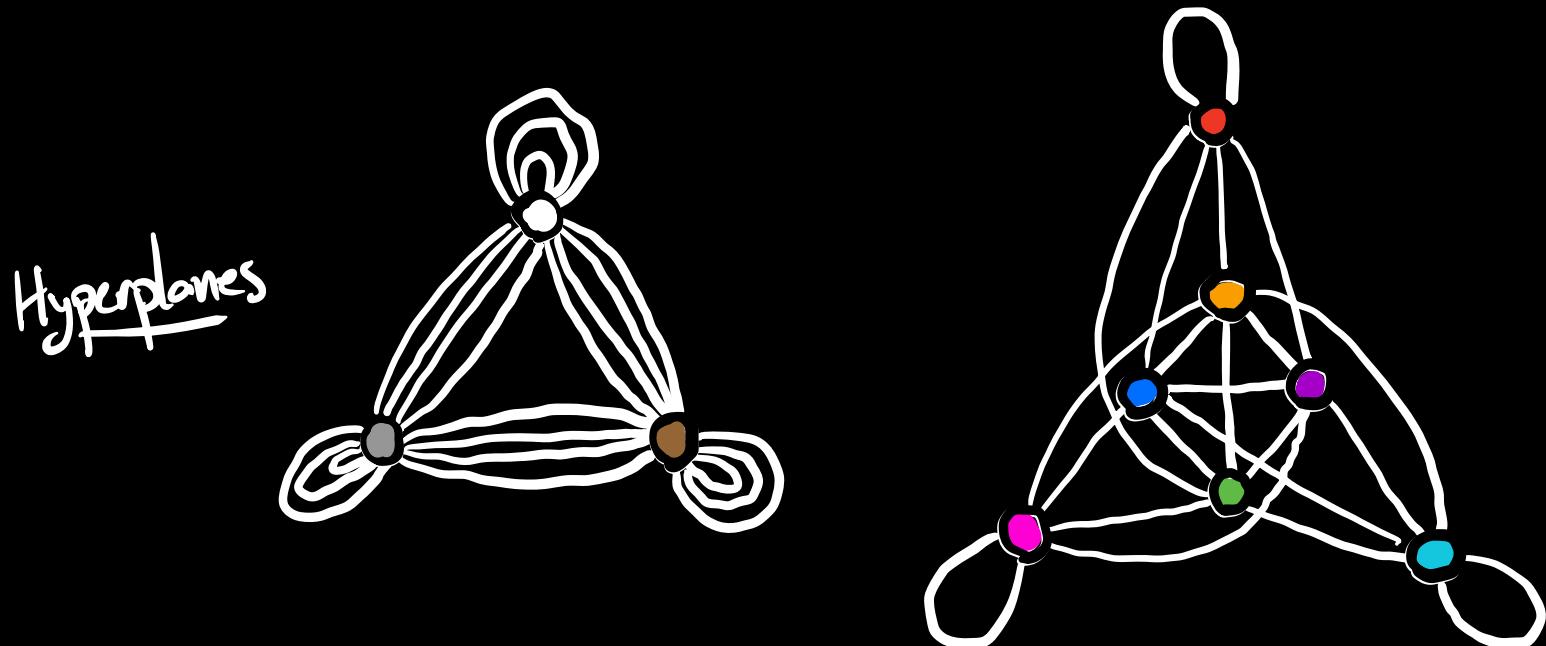
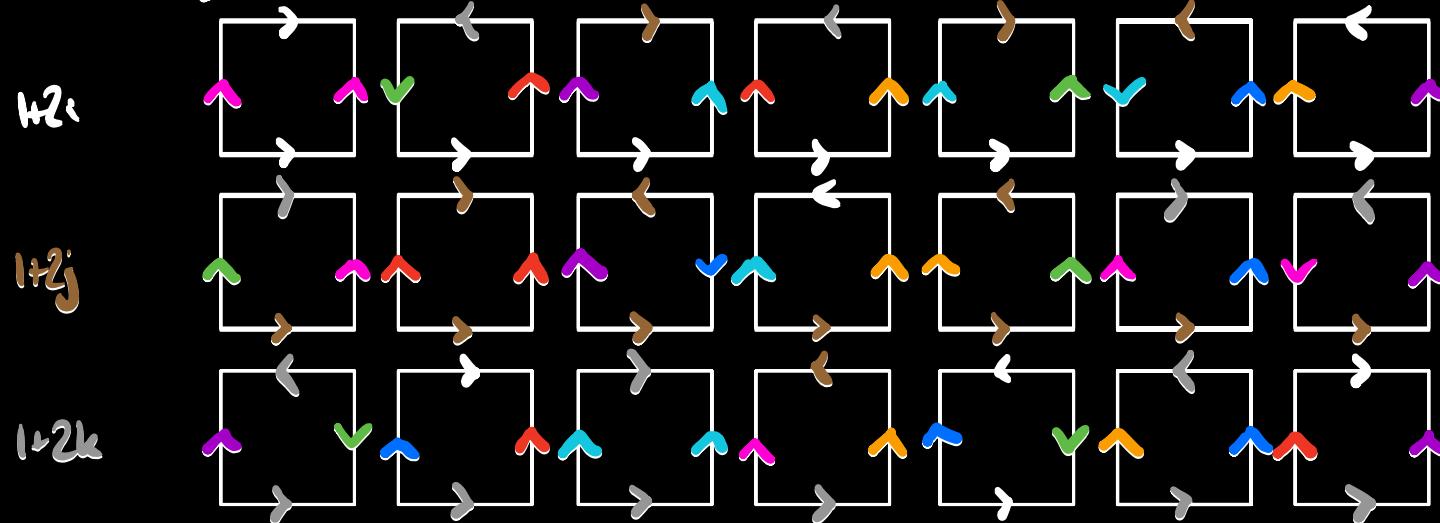


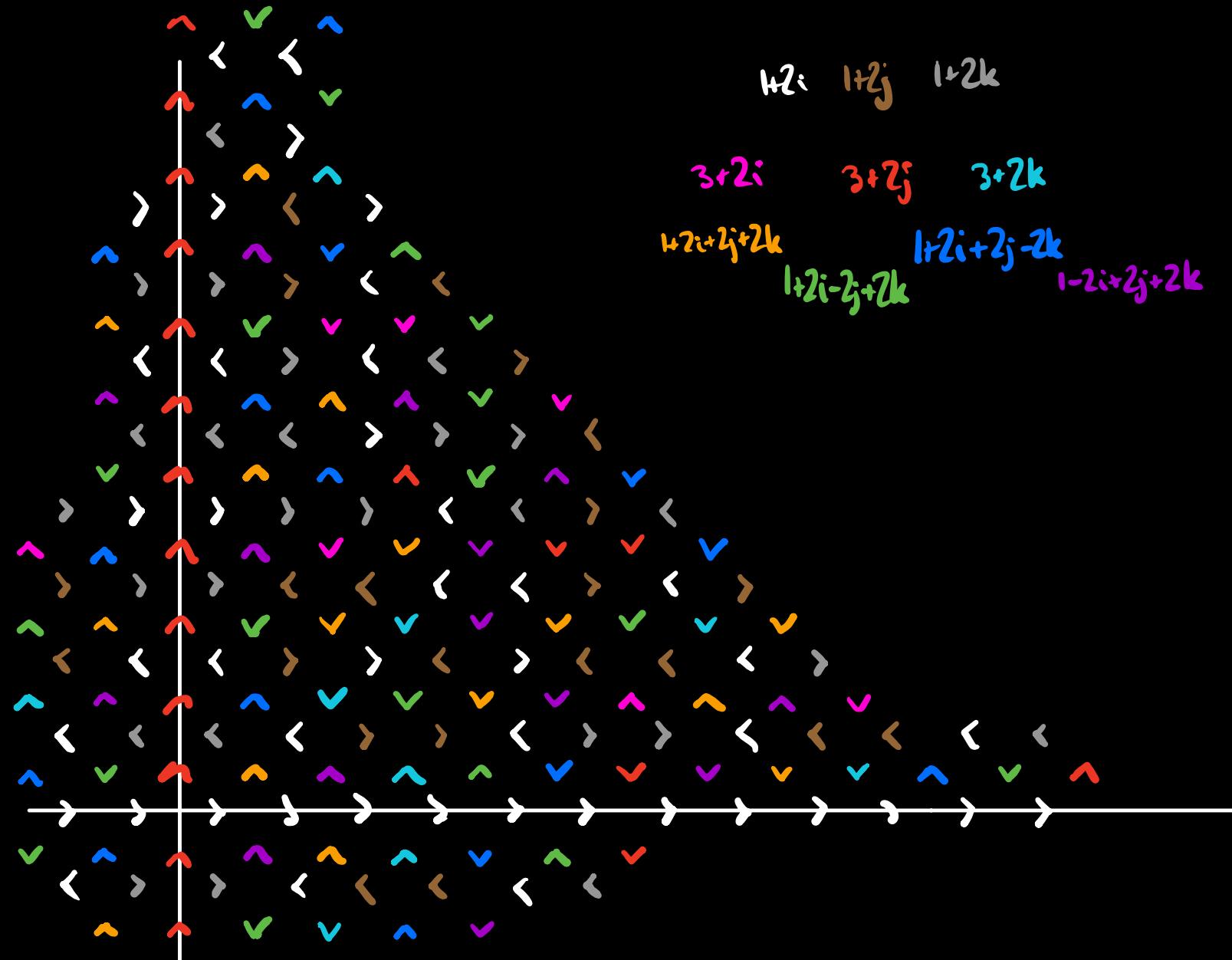


For example...

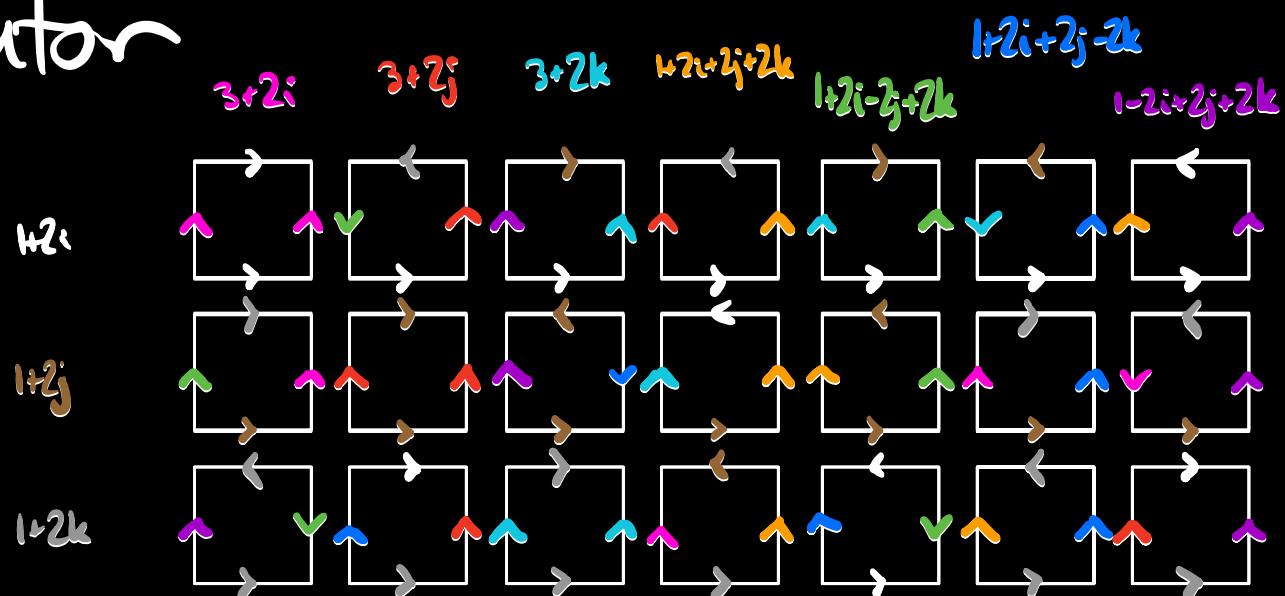


$$SD_3\left(\mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{1}{65}\right]\right)_{3+2i} \quad 3+2j \quad 3+2k \quad 1+2i+2j+2k \quad 1+2i-2j+2k \quad 1+2i+2j-2k \\ 1-2i+2j+2k$$





Takeaway
A set of quaternions
determines a square-like calculator

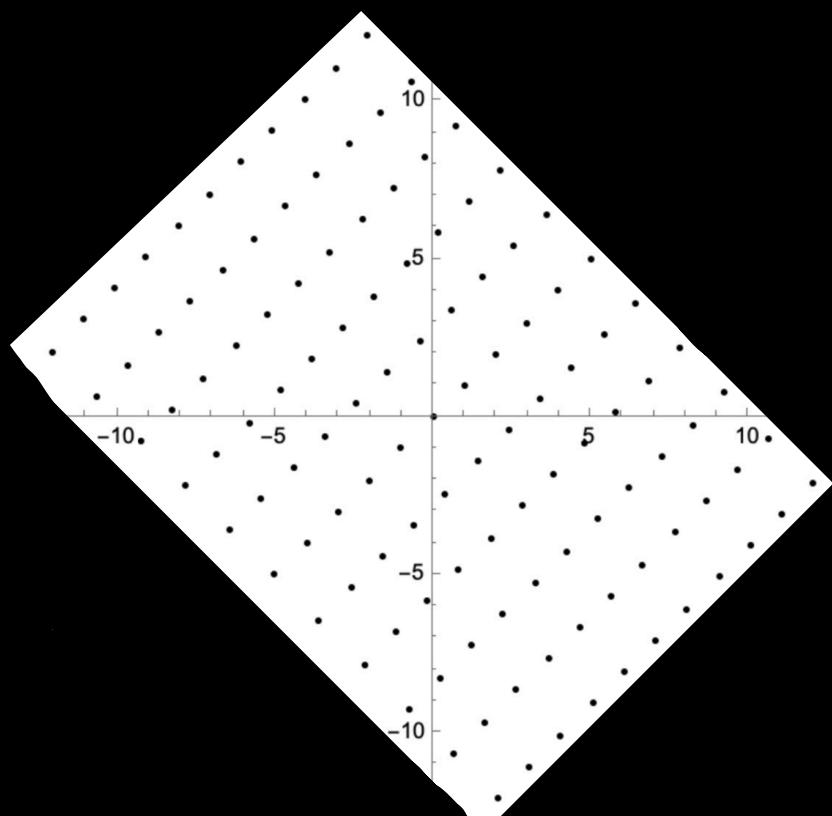


This calculator not only allows us to say which rotations are in $\langle S \rangle$, but also tells us how to perform a given rotation in terms of our basic moves in a maximally efficient way.

Part IV

Towards a Classification
of Linear Groups

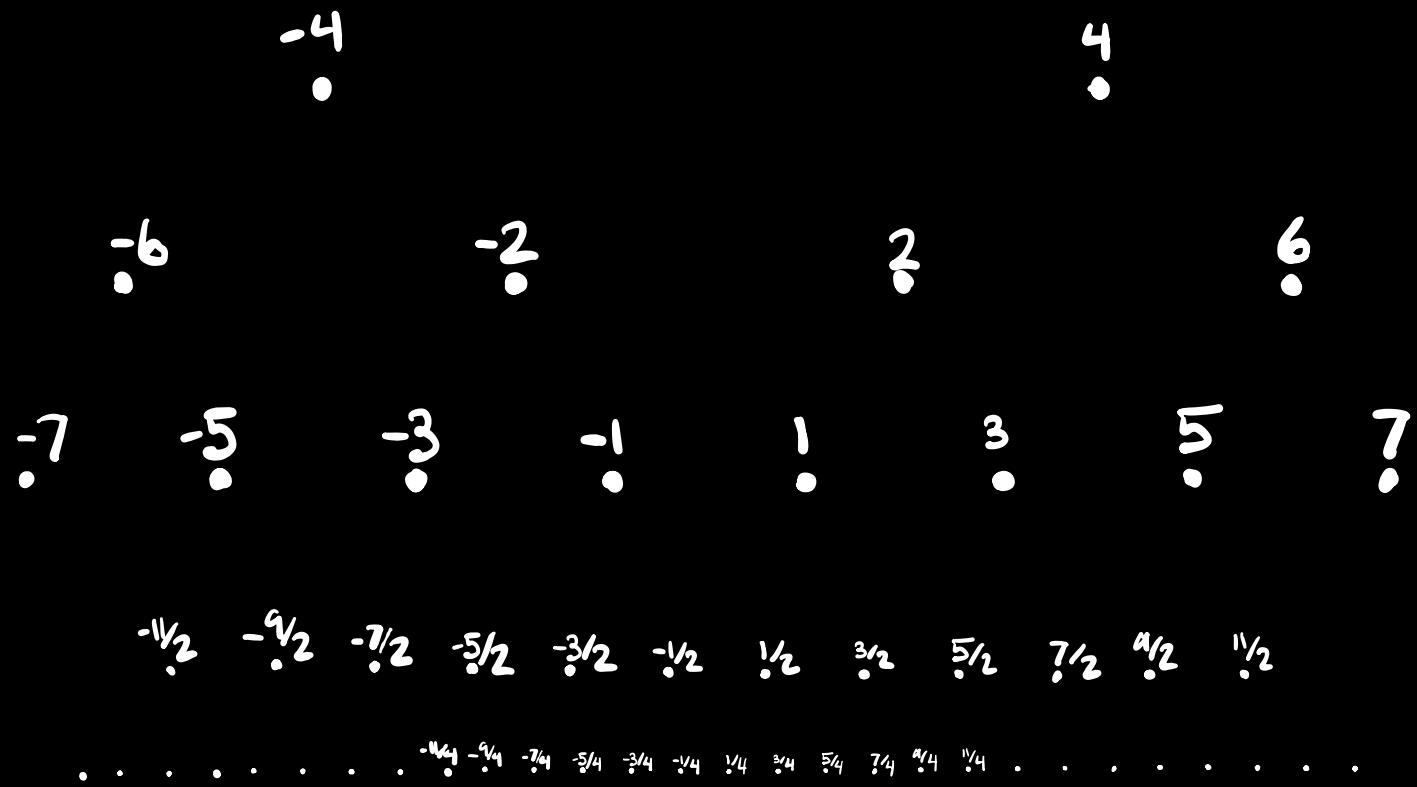
Note $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{2}] \leq \mathbb{R}$ is dense in



Idea Send
 $a+b\sqrt{2}$
↓
 $(a+b\sqrt{2}, a-b\sqrt{2})$.

Discrete!
(a lattice, even!)

Similarly, $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{2}] \leq \mathbb{R}$ is dense.



$\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{2}] \leq \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{Q}_2$ discrete! (again a lattice)

Trick Any f.g. $\Gamma \leq G(\bar{\mathbb{Q}})$
is contained in $G(A)$ for
 A finitely generated, and

$G(A) \leq_{\text{lattice}} \prod_{i=1}^n G(k_{v_i})$ for
finitely many completions of k

For $G = \mathrm{PGL}_2$, get a
finite product of

(i) trees

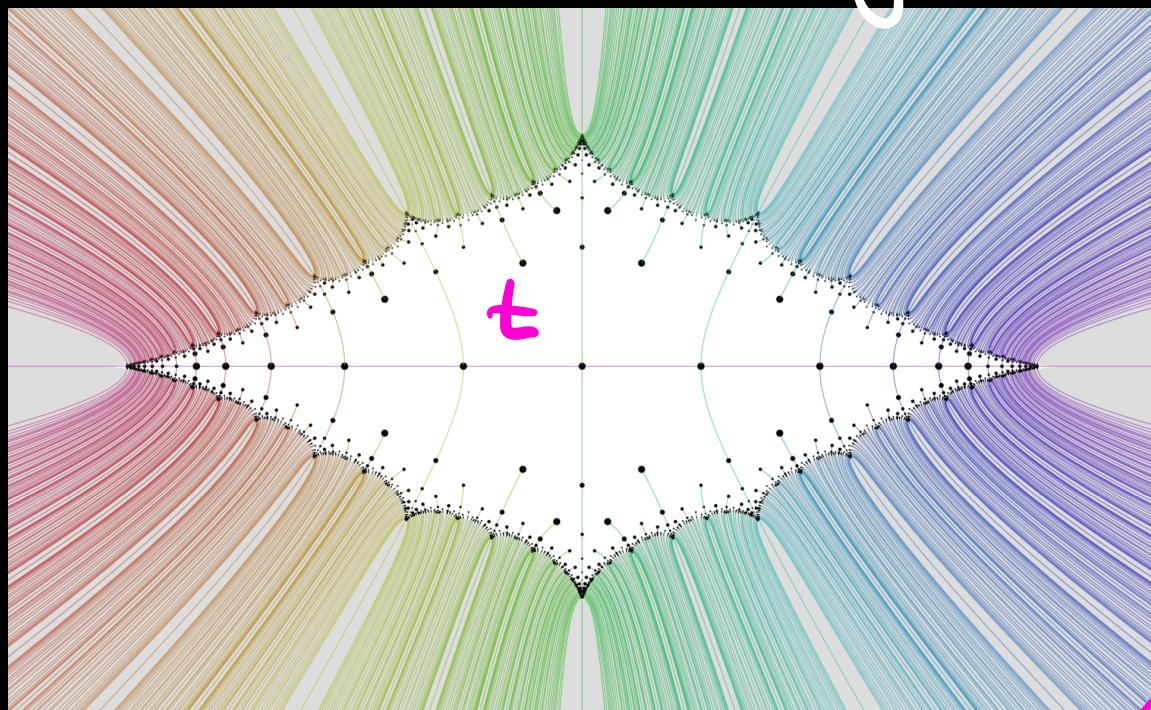
(ii) \mathbb{H}^2

(iii) \mathbb{H}^3

Our observation is
that, surprisingly often,
 $T \leq \mathrm{PGL}_2(A)$ has finite
index!

Let S denote the set of irr. factors
of polynomials q which can be obtained
from $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ via $\begin{pmatrix} P \\ q \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} P \pm q \\ q \end{pmatrix}$
 $\begin{pmatrix} P \\ q \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} P \\ q^{\pm pt} \end{pmatrix}$

Let R denote the set of irr.
polynomials all of whose roots
lie in the white region



$$\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & i \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ t & i \end{pmatrix} \rangle$$

Prop $R \supseteq S$

Conj 1 $\mathbb{R} = \mathcal{S}$

Let k be a number field, and G a simple k -algebraic group.

A subgroup $\Gamma \leq G(k)$ is

① arithmetic if it is
commensurable with $G(A)$ for
a subring $A \leq k$

② algebraic if it is contained
in some $H(k) \leq G(k)$

③ geometric if it is discrete

with respect to some valuation topology on K .

Conj I \Rightarrow These are
all the possibilities!

In fact if one can
show that a singly degenerate
Kleinian group cannot lie in
 $\mathrm{PSL}_2\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$, we obtain an algorithm

Finite set $S \subseteq \mathrm{PGL}_2\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ \rightsquigarrow Finite* presentation
of $\langle S \rangle$

* or, $\langle S \rangle = \mathbb{Z}^n \rtimes A$, $A \subseteq \mathcal{L}$.

Algorithm Input finite $S \subseteq GL_2(\overline{\mathbb{Q}})$.

Step 1 Is $\langle S \rangle$ algebraic?

Compute Zariski tangent space of Z. closure

If $\langle S \rangle$ Zariski dense, it must
be geometric or arithmetic.

Step 2 Let A be the ring generated by all of the entries of matrices in S . Since this ring is f.g., there is a finite set of valuations so that

$A \leq_{k_v}$ is unbounded

For each valuation, check if

$\langle S \rangle$ is discrete by

computing a Dirichlet domain

in the symmetric space

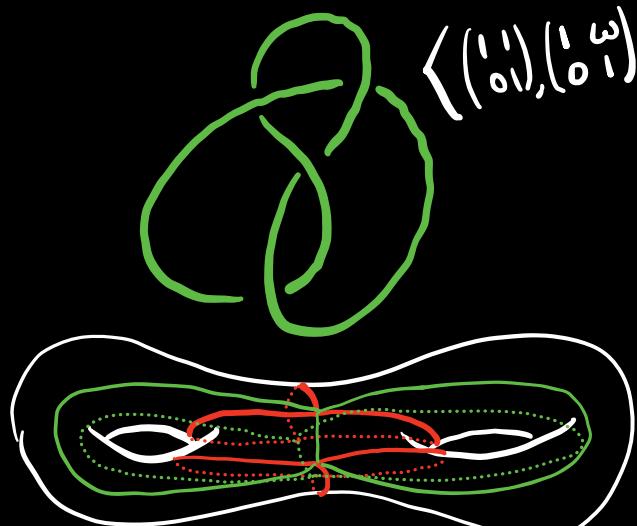
(either Bruhat-Tits building
or H^2/H^3 for PGL_2)

If none are discrete, $\langle S \rangle$
must be arithmetic!

Look at numerators of
entries to determine congruence
subgroup

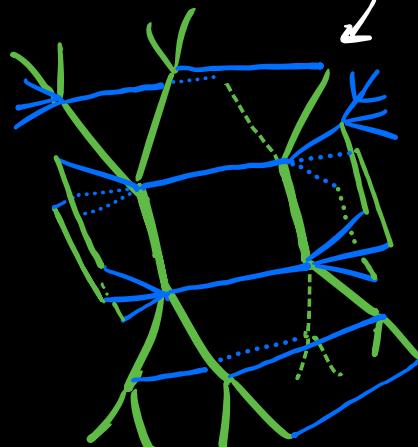
Output Presentation

Thank you!

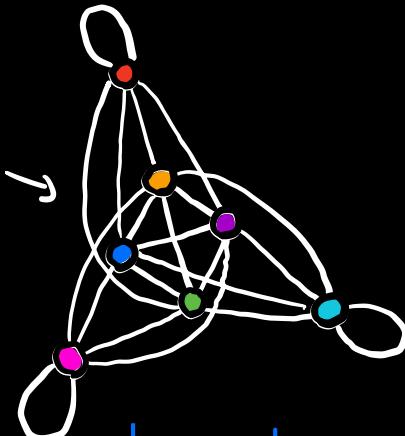


$$\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \omega \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$$

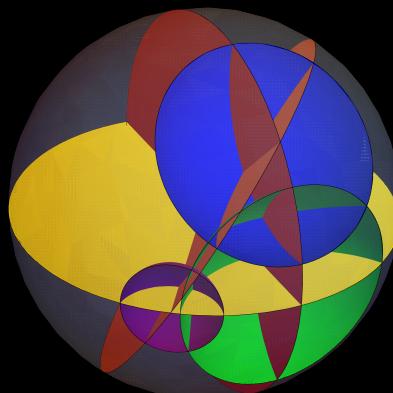
f.i. in $\begin{pmatrix} a+b\sqrt{2} & -3(-c-d\sqrt{2}) \\ c+d\sqrt{2} & a-b\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}$



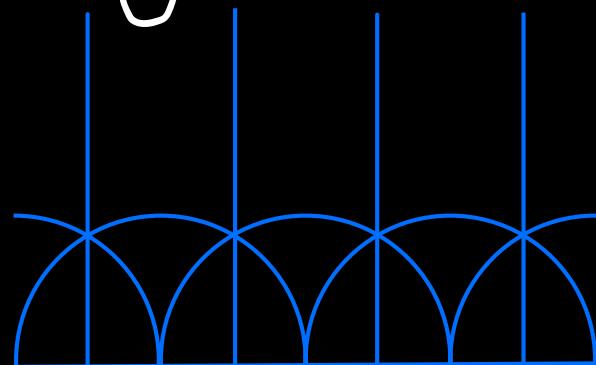
$$SU_2(\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{65}])$$



$$\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/3 \end{pmatrix}, \frac{1}{8} \begin{pmatrix} 82 & 9 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} a+b\varphi & c+d\varphi \\ -c+d\varphi & a-b\varphi \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$$

Some consequences of Conj

$PSL_2 \mathbb{Z}[\gamma_p]$ is coherent (Sene '74)

$SD_3 \mathbb{Q}$ is coherent, and all its hyp subgps are virt free.

$\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ q & 1 \end{pmatrix} \rangle$ is never free
for $|q| < 4$ rational (Lyndon-Ullman '69)

$\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ -4 & 3 \end{pmatrix}^n, \begin{pmatrix} 3+2i & 0 \\ 0 & 3-2i \end{pmatrix}^n \right\rangle$ is never free ($n \geq 1$). (Wise '02)

$$\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ t & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$$

is arithmetic if
it is not geometric

Further Qs

Can we classify geometric subgroups further? Must they all have integral elements?

Can surface gps act properly on a product of trees?

$$\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 1/2 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$$

$$\left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/3 \end{pmatrix}, \frac{1}{8} \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$$

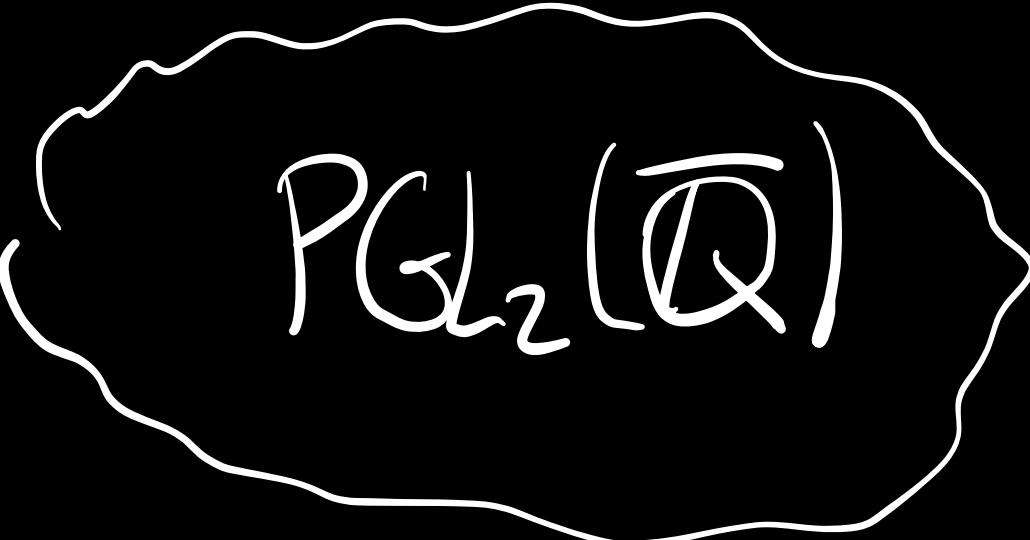
Hyp 3-mflds - classification
of manifolds?

When does $PSL_2(\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}])$
contain a surface group?

Does a fixed surface group
only embed in finitely many $\text{PSL}_2(\mathbb{Z}[\frac{1}{p}])$?

Is every surface gp in $\text{PSL}_2 \mathbb{Q}$
Fuchsian?

Our goal today is
to understand the group


$$\mathrm{PGL}_2(\bar{\mathbb{Q}})$$

$\overline{\mathbb{Q}}$ denotes the complex numbers which are roots of a polynomial with integer coefficients:

$$i \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}}, \text{ because } i^2 + 1 = 0$$

$$\sqrt[3]{2} \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}}, \text{ because } (\sqrt[3]{2})^3 - 2 = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{5} \in \overline{\mathbb{Q}}, \text{ because } 5\left(\frac{1}{5}\right) - 1 = 0$$

The remainder of
the talk will aim to describe
these possibilities, and try
to show evidence for the
conjecture.

Algebraic Subgroups:

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \middle| \begin{array}{l} a=d \\ b=-c \end{array} \right\}$$

$SO_3(\mathbb{Q})$, $BSL(1, n)$

Arithmetic $PGL_2(\mathbb{O}_K)$

Geometric Hyperbolic 3-wflds