

The Beltrami – de Sitter model

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- 1 Part I: How does de Sitter space appeared?
- 2 Part II: Beltrami and de Sitter spaces in 2 dimensions
- 3 Part III: Relation to the split real form of the simple exceptional Lie group G_2
- 4 Part IV: Generalization to higher dimensions

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$$g = c^2 dt^2 - R^2 (d\chi^2 + \sin^2 \chi d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \chi \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2).$$

Here c is the velocity of light, and R is the radius of the 3-sphere.

- To Einstein's surprise, this metric **did not satisfy** his equations of General Relativity, $G_{\mu\nu} := R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2} R g_{\mu\nu} = T_{\mu\nu}$, with the natural energy momentum tensor $T_{\mu\nu} = \rho u_\mu u_\nu$, $u_\mu u^\mu = 1$, describing the uniformly distributed mass of the Universe.
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then this new **non-flat** metric also **satisfies Einstein's modified equations**, $G_{\mu\nu} = \Lambda g_{\mu\nu}$. But now **without matter**!

- After 1929 **Edwin Hubble's** discovery of the **recession of galaxies**, when it became clear that the **Universe is expanding**, Einstein realized that his static model of the universe was **wrong** and that, consequently, the introduction of the cosmological constant Λ into his equations had been unnecessary. He therefore returned to the **original equations**, $G_{\mu\nu} = T_{\mu\nu}$, which have remained the canonical Einstein equations **almost** up to the present day.

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- In this interpretation, the **early** Universe obeys the original Einstein equations $G_{\mu\nu} = T_{\mu\nu}$, but with the energy momentum tensor of an **exotic matter**: a perfect fluid with the equation of state $p = -\rho$. This matter is called the **inflaton field**. It is **the inflaton field that is the source of de Sitter space**.
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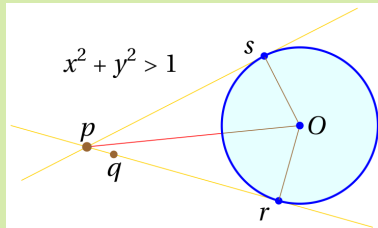
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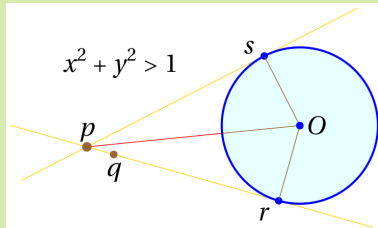
$$g = c^2 dt^2 - R^2 \cosh\left(\frac{ct}{R}\right) (d\chi^2 + \sin^2 \chi (d\theta^2 + \sin^2 \theta d\phi^2)),$$

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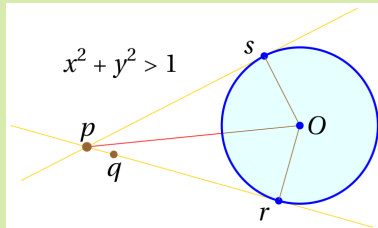
- 1 Part I: How does de Sitter space appeared?
- 2 Part II: Beltrami and de Sitter spaces in 2 dimensions
- 3 Part III: Relation to the split real form of the simple exceptional Lie group G_2
- 4 Part IV: Generalization to higher dimensions



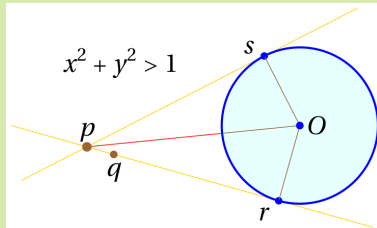
- Remove the unit disk $B^2 = \{(x, y) \mid x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}$ from the Euclidean (x, y) plane.
- Define a **conformal structure** on the resulting manifold $M^2 = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus B^2$ by declaring that the **light cones** in M^2 are the cones whose tips lie in M^2 and whose generators are pairs of straight lines passing through the tip and tangent to the disk B^2 .
- An explicit formula for a representative ds_0^2 of the conformal class can be obtained as follows:



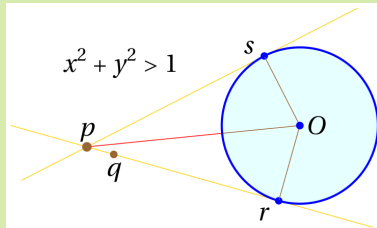
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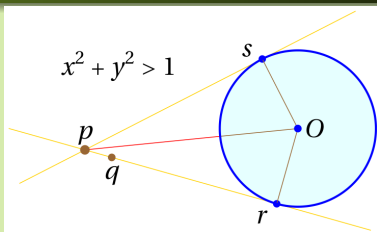


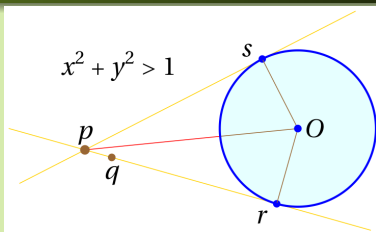
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Natural Lorentz metric on the complement of a disk in 2D



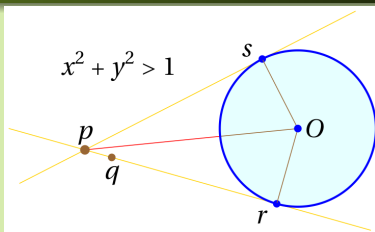


- We consider an infinitesimal vector $\overrightarrow{pq} = (dx, dy)$, associated with the pair of points $p = (x, y)$ and $q = (x + dx, y + dy)$, which we want to lie on a line tangent to the light cone with tip at p .
- The tangency condition says that $\overrightarrow{pq} \times \overrightarrow{pr} = 0$, where \times is the usual vector product in \mathbb{R}^3 .
- Since from elementary geometry we have

$$d_E(0, r) = 1 \text{ \& } d_E(p, r)^2 + d_E(0, r)^2 = d_E(0, p)^2 \text{ \& } \overrightarrow{pq} \cdot \overrightarrow{Or} = 0,$$

squaring the $\overrightarrow{pq} \times \overrightarrow{pr} = 0$, we get:

$$0 = (\overrightarrow{pq})^2 (\overrightarrow{pr})^2 - (\overrightarrow{pq} \cdot \overrightarrow{pr})^2 = (y^2 - 1)dx^2 - 2xydx dy + (x^2 - 1)dy^2.$$

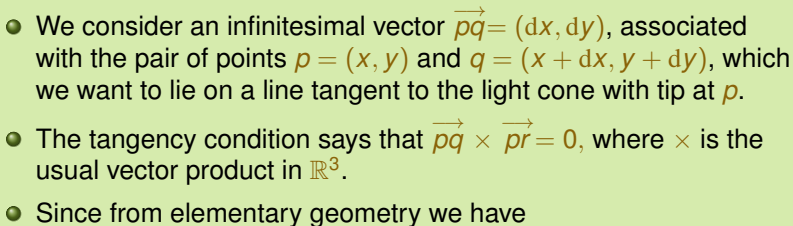


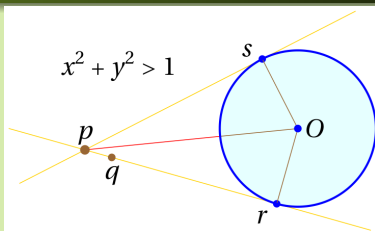
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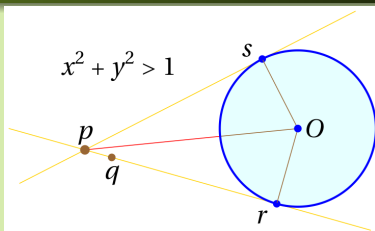
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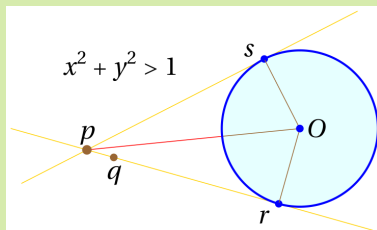


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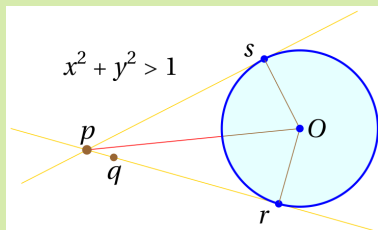
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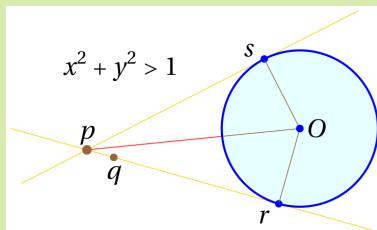
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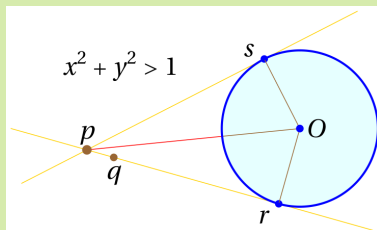
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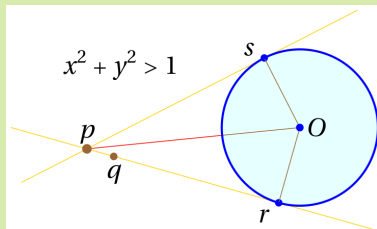
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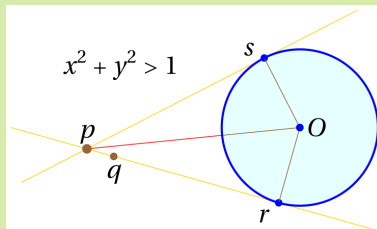
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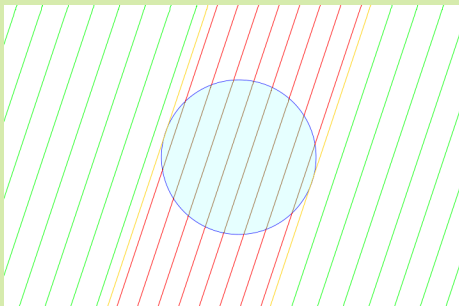
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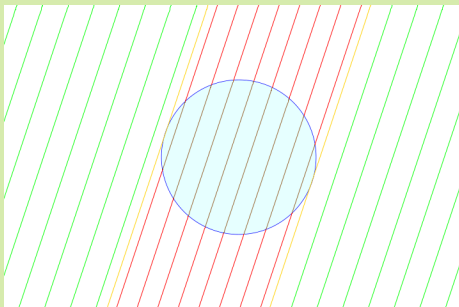
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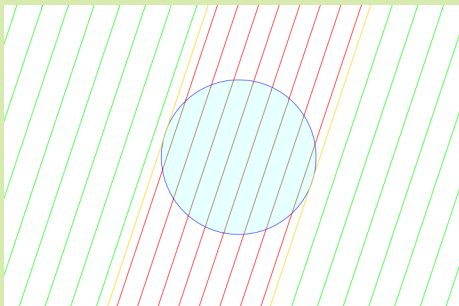
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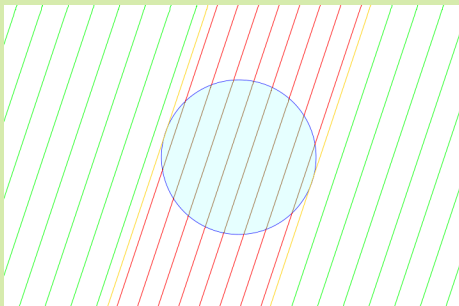
- **Outside** the disk **geometry is Lorentzian**. There are three kinds of **geodesics** there, which all **are Euclidean straight lines**.
- The **null geodesics** are straight lines **tangent to the disk**.
- The **timelike geodesics** are straight lines **secant to the disk**.
- The **spacelike geodesics** are straight lines that **do not intersect the disk**.



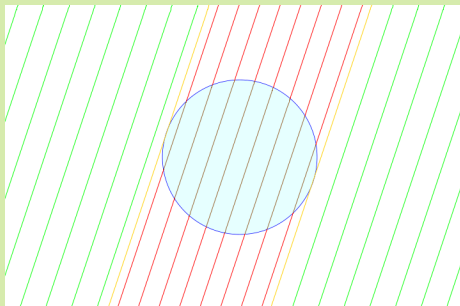
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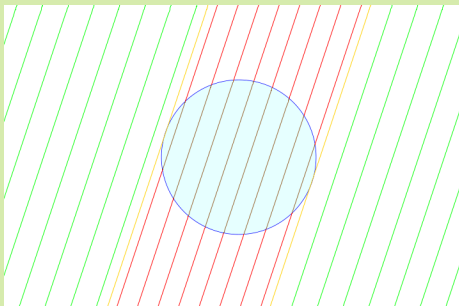
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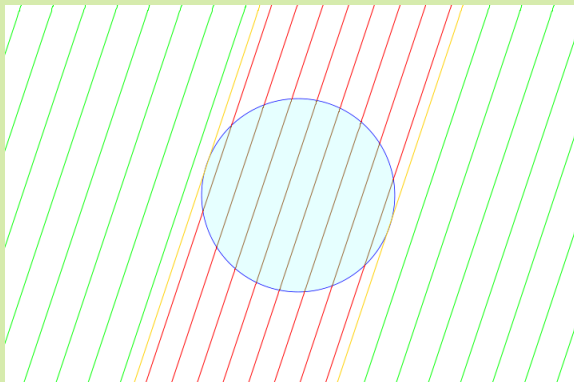
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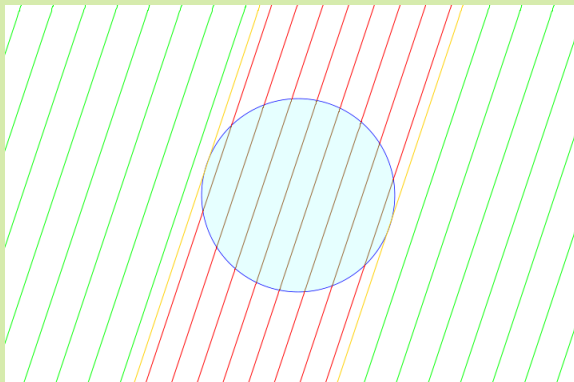
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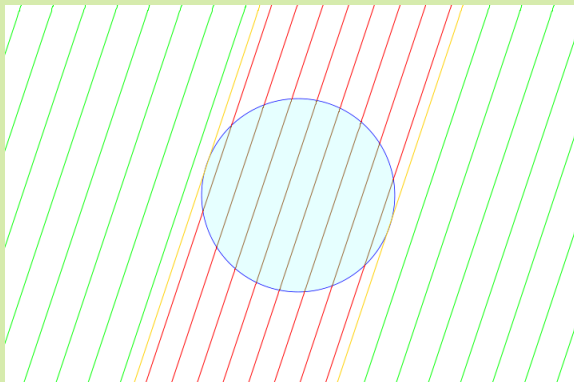
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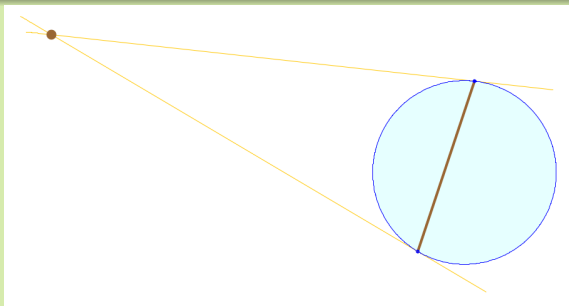
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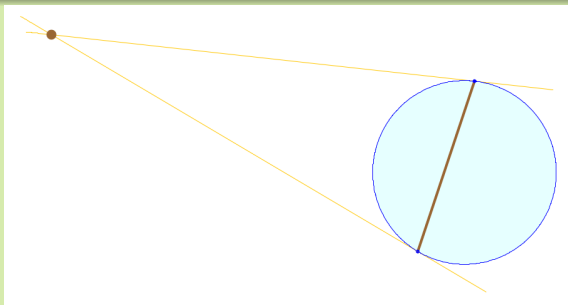
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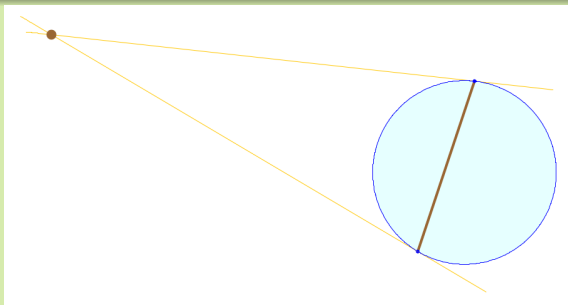
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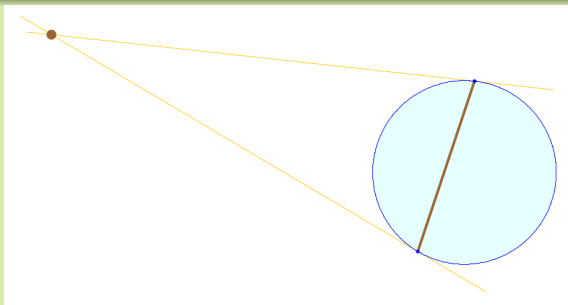
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- But **also** every **point inside** the disk defines a **straight line outside** the disk!



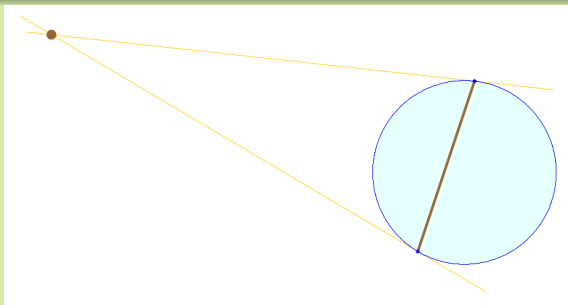
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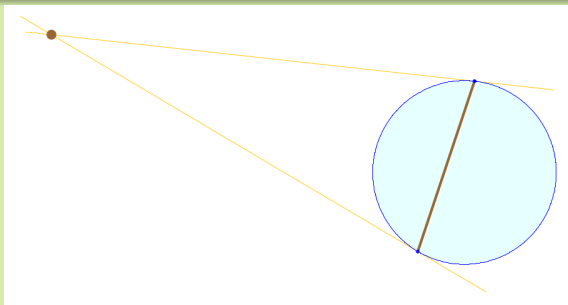
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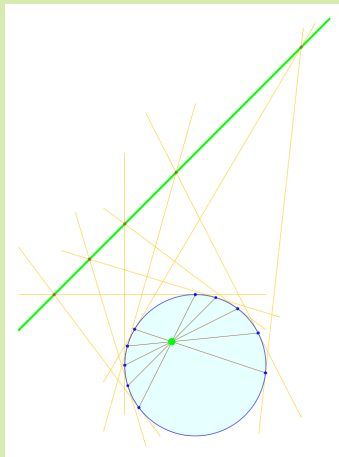
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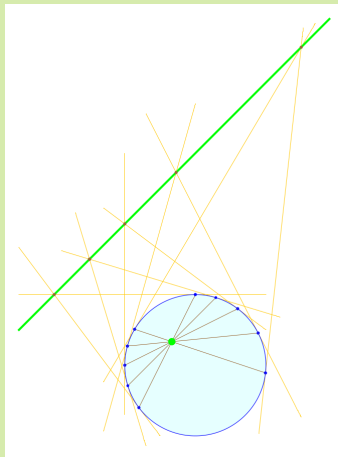
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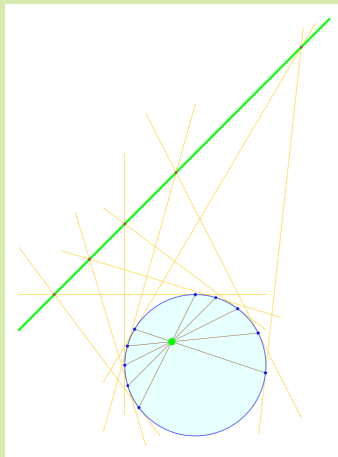


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- Watch! [▶ Link](#)



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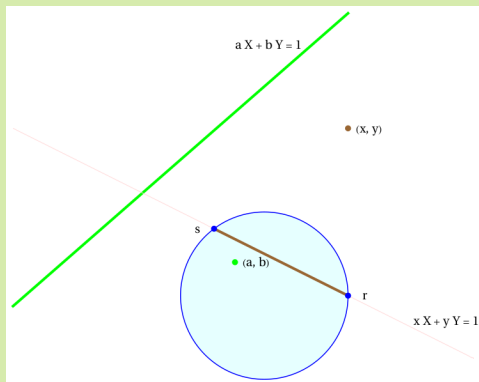
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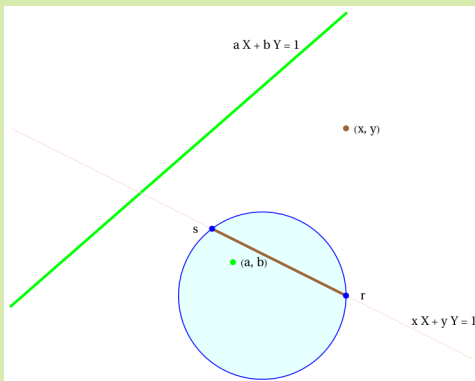
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Correspondence space for the Beltrami – de Sitter model

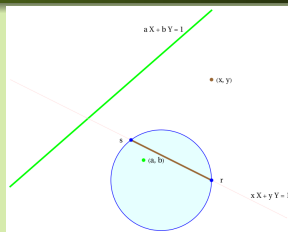


- With this convention the **points – lines** duality is depicted in the figure above.

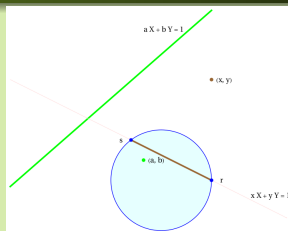
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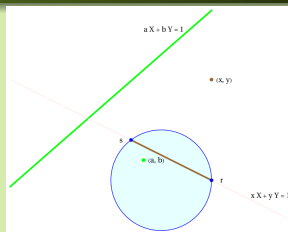
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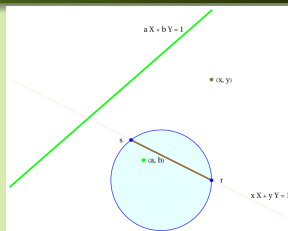
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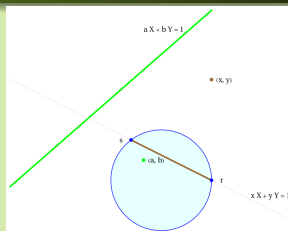


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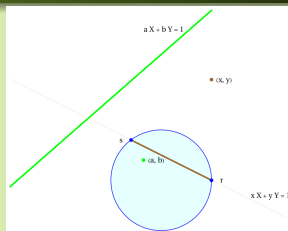


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A geometric transform between Lorentzian and Riemannian regimes

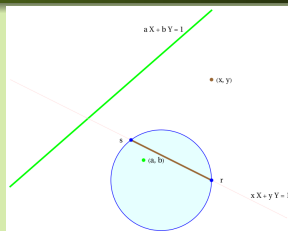


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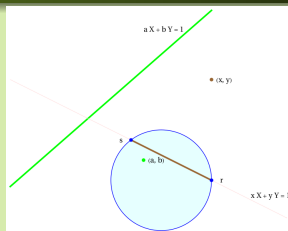
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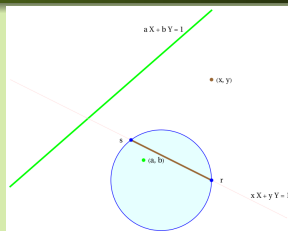
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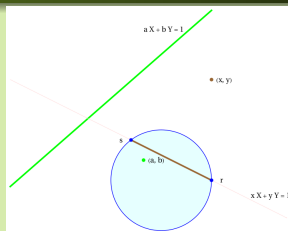
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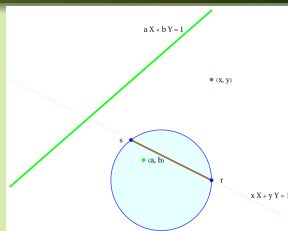


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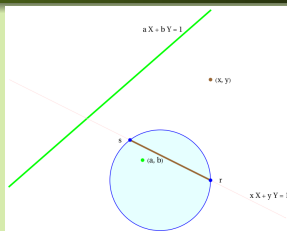


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- I now consider the space $T = M^2 \times B^2$ of all pairs $\xi = (p, P)$ such that $p \in M^2$ and $P \in B^2$. This space is 4-dimensional. Its points ξ can be parameterized by $\xi = (x, y, a, b)$ with $x^2 + y^2 > 1$ and $a^2 + b^2 < 1$.
- I call T the **correspondence space** for the 2-dimensional Beltrami–de Sitter model.
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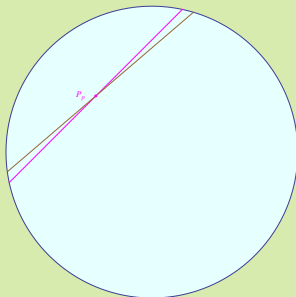
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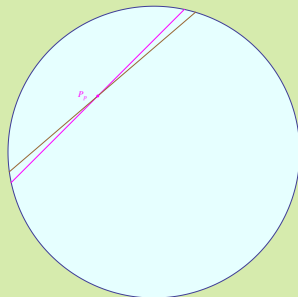
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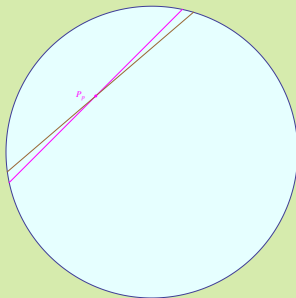
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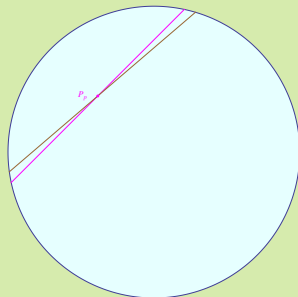
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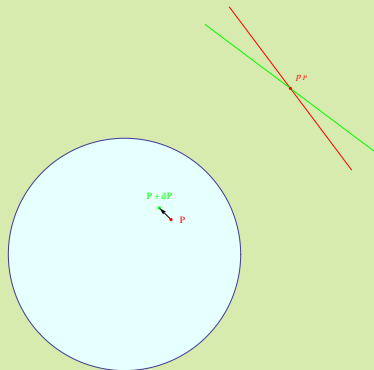
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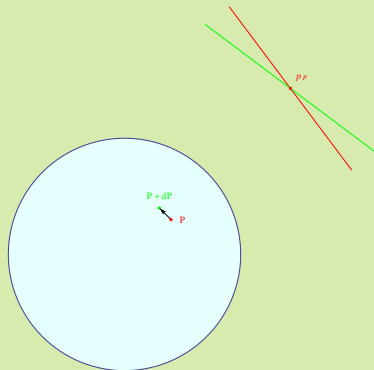
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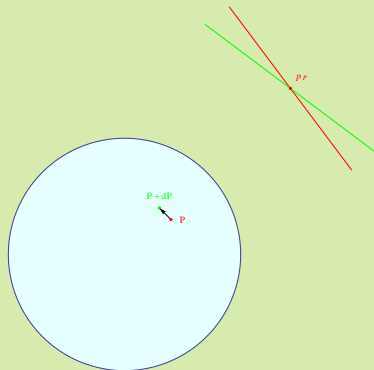
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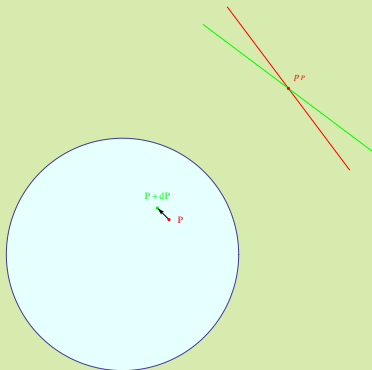
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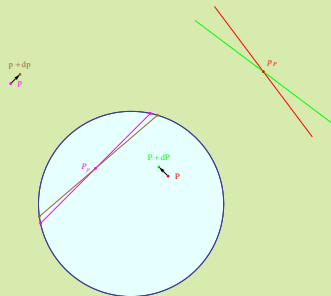
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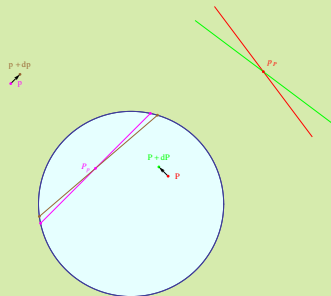


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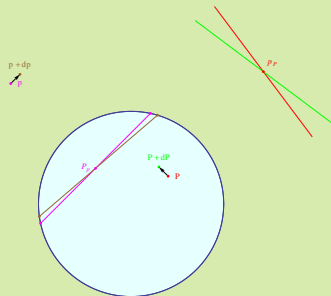


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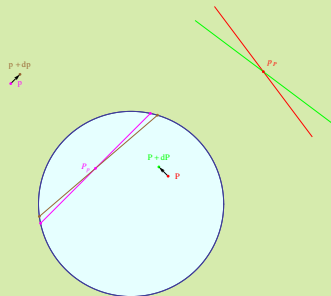


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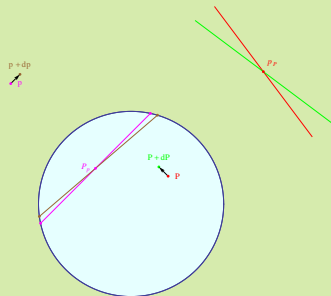


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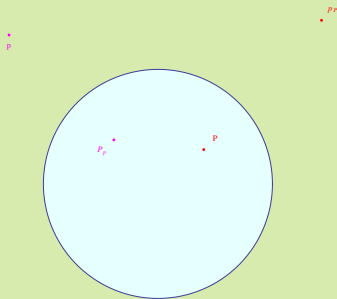
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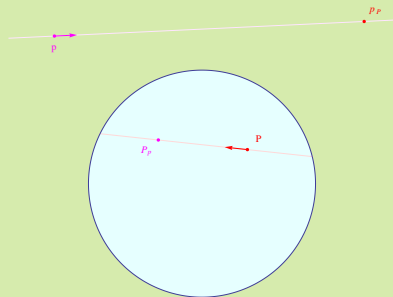
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Dancing pairs



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or infinitesimally and in coordinates

$$(dx, dy) = \lambda \left(x - \frac{db}{adb - bda}, y - \frac{da}{bda - adb} \right)$$

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- Eliminating λ from the first of the above equations, or μ from the second equation we get:

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- And this **conformal metric**, similarly as the Beltrami-de Sitter conformal metric ds_0^2 , is solely defined by the **projective structure** of \mathbb{R}^2 :
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So what is the metric on T ???

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- The **correspondence space** $T = B^2 \times M^2$ consisting of pairs (p, P) of points $P \in B^2 = \{(X, Y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid X^2 + Y^2 < 1\}$ and $p \in M^2 = \{(X, Y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid X^2 + Y^2 > 1\}$ **is naturally equipped** with a **conformal class** $[g]$ of an **Einstein** and **self-dual** split signature metric

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- 1 Part I: How does de Sitter space appeared?
- 2 Part II: Beltrami and de Sitter spaces in 2 dimensions
- 3 Part III: Relation to the split real form of the simple exceptional Lie group G_2
- 4 Part IV: Generalization to higher dimensions

- A **rank** $k(\leq d)$ **(vector) distribution** \mathcal{D} on an d -dimensional manifold M is a **smooth map** $M \ni p \rightarrow D_p \subset T_p M$, where D_p is a k -dimensional vector subspace of $T_p M$.
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- 1 Part I: How does de Sitter space appeared?
- 2 Part II: Beltrami and de Sitter spaces in 2 dimensions
- 3 Part III: Relation to the split real form of the simple exceptional Lie group G_2
- 4 Part IV: Generalization to higher dimensions

- **Everything** I said about de Sitter space in 2 dimensions easily **generalizes to** any **dimension** $d > 2$; this, in particular, includes the existence of the **dancing metric**, now with signature (d, d) .
- The interesting story is **how to associate the split G_2 from the de Sitter space when $d > 2$.**
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Surprises imply a Big Surprise

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- The 9-dimensional twistor bundle \mathbb{T} is **foliated** by **6-dimensional leaves** Q of \mathcal{D}^2 . The **distributions** \mathcal{D} of rank 3, \mathcal{D}^1 of rank 4, and $\mathcal{D}^2 = \mathbb{T}Q$ of rank 6 **are tangent to every leaf** Q .
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- Dividing any leave Q by the Cauchy characteristic X produces a **5-manifold** Q/X with a **(2, 3, 5) distribution**, $D = \mathcal{D}/X$!
- As Cartan suggests, **having a (2, 3, 5) distribution always check its symmetry**.
- Q: **What is the symmetry of the (2, 3, 5) distribution** D **on** Q/X ?

Of course the answer is:

The **local symmetry of this distribution** is the **split real form of the simple exceptional Lie group** G_2 .

P. Nurowski,

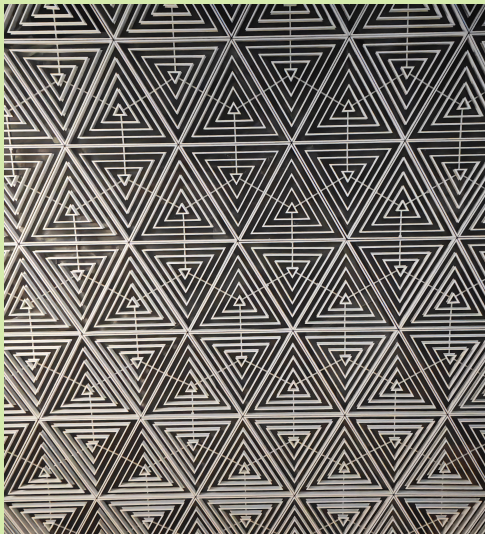
The Beltrami – de Sitter model: Penrose's CCC, Radon transform and a hidden G_2 symmetry, <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2503.12364>.

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THANK YOU!

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