

**Idea:** admit periods 5 and 10 to the crystallographic options  $\{2, 3, 4, 6, \infty\}$  by letting the golden ratio  $\tau := (1 + \sqrt{5})/2$  become an integer. ( $\tau$  is the positive root of  $\tau^2 = \tau + 1$ .)

Recall for crystallographic  $G$  that  $4 \cos^2(\pi/p_{ij}) = m_{ij}m_{ji}$ , a (rational) integer. Compare this with  $\cos(\pi/5) = \tau/2$ , so that  $4 \cos^2(\pi/5) = \tau^2 = \tau + 1$  and  $4 \cos^2(\pi/10) = \tau + 2$ . If we allow such node labels, then the rotational periods 5 and 10 for  $r_i r_j$  are induced by the diagrams

$$\bullet \xrightarrow{s} \bullet \xrightarrow{\tau^2 s} \bullet \quad \text{and} \quad \bullet \xrightarrow{s} \bullet \xrightarrow{(\tau+2)s} \bullet,$$

respectively, where now we allow rescaling of nodes by any ‘integer’  $s \in \mathbb{D}$  or its inverse:

**Some Properties** of the domain  $\mathbb{D} := \mathbb{Z}[\tau] = \{a + b\tau : a, b \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ , which is the ring of all algebraic integers in the field  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})$ .

1. The non-trivial field automorphism mapping  $\sqrt{5} \mapsto -\sqrt{5}$  induces a ring automorphism  $' : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$  (*conjugation*). Thus  $(a + b\tau)' = (a + b) - b\tau$ . In particular,  $\tau' = 1 - \tau = -\tau^{-1}$ .
2.  $z = a + b\tau$  has (multiplicative) *norm*  $N(z) := zz' = a^2 + ab - b^2$ . And  $\mathbb{D}$  is a Euclidean domain, with a division algorithm based on  $|N(z)|$ .
3. The set of *units* in  $\mathbb{D}$  is  $\{\pm\tau^n : n \in \mathbb{Z}\} = \{u \in \mathbb{D} : N(u) = \pm 1\}$ . If  $f_n$  is the  $n$ th Fibonacci number, taking  $f_{-1} = 1$  and  $f_0 = 0$ , then for all  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$

$$\tau^n = f_{n-1} + f_n \tau.$$

4. Recall that integers  $z, w \in \mathbb{D}$  are *associates* if  $z = uw$  for some unit  $u$ . Up to associates, the primes  $\pi \in \mathbb{D}$  can be classified as follows:
  - (a) the prime  $\pi = \sqrt{5} = 2\tau - 1$ , which is self-conjugate (up to associates:  $\pi' = -\pi$ );
  - (b) rational primes  $\pi = p \equiv \pm 2 \pmod{5}$ , also self-conjugate;
  - (c) primes  $\pi = a + b\tau$ , for which  $|N(\pi)|$  equals a rational prime  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ . In this case, the conjugate prime  $\pi' = (a + b) - b\tau$  is not an associate of  $\pi$ .

**New dihedral groups.** You can check directly that the pentagonal group  $H_2 = I_2(5)$  really does come from the diagram  $\bullet \xrightarrow{1} \bullet \xrightarrow{\tau^2} \bullet$  and that the decagonal group  $I_2(10)$  comes from  $\bullet \xrightarrow{1} \bullet \xrightarrow{(\tau+2)} \bullet$ . Furthermore, any ‘quasicrystallographic’ Coxeter group  $G$  with such a node-labelled diagram can be represented as a subgroup of  $GL_n(\mathbb{D})$ , through the action of  $G$  on the  $\mathbb{D}$ -module  $\oplus_j \mathbb{D}b_j$ .

**Example.**  $G = [3, 5, 3]$  is a subgroup of  $O(V)$ , where the real 4-space  $V$  is equipped with a Lorentzian form  $x \cdot y$  of signature  $(+++ -)$ . Thus  $G$  also acts naturally on  $\mathbb{H}^3$  and yields, for example, the regular icosahedral tessellation  $\{3, 5, 3\}$  of hyperbolic space. Since  $\tau^2$  is a unit, there is essentially only one choice of diagram, namely

$$\Delta(G) = \bullet \text{ --- } \bullet \text{ --- } \tau^2 \text{ --- } \tau^2 \text{ .}$$

The discriminant is

$$\text{disc}(V) = -\frac{1}{16}(2 + 5\tau) \sim -(2 + 5\tau) ,$$

where  $\delta := -(2 + 5\tau)$  has norm  $-11$ . Thus  $\delta$  is prime in  $\mathbb{D}$ .

Now consider any prime  $\pi \in \mathbb{D}$ . We can show that  $G^\pi = \langle r_0, r_1, r_2, r_3 \rangle^\pi$  is a string  $C$ -group, with regular 4-polytope  $\mathcal{P}^\pi$ .

The subgroup  $G_3^\pi = \langle r_0, r_1, r_2 \rangle^\pi$  is obviously some quotient of the spherical group  $[3, 5] \simeq H_3$ . After reduction modulo any prime  $\pi$ , even for associates of 2, the reflections  $r_j$  still have period 2. And consider

$$z := (r_0 r_1 r_2)^5 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 & \tau^4 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 2\tau^4 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 3\tau^2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} . \quad (1)$$

Since  $\tau^4$  is a unit,  $r_0 r_1 r_2$  still has period 10 in  $G^\pi$ . Thus  $\langle r_0, r_1, r_2 \rangle^\pi \simeq [3, 5]$  and dually  $\langle r_1, r_2, r_3 \rangle^\pi \simeq [5, 3]$ .

Next we employ [4, Th. 4.2], which essentially says that so long as (say) the facet group  $G_3^\pi$  is a Coxeter group of spherical type and the vertex-figure group  $G_3^\pi$  is any string  $C$ -group, then  $G^\pi$  itself must be a string  $C$ -group. The key step in proving this is to show that the orbit of  $\mu_0 := [1, 0, 0, 0]$  under the right action of the matrix group  $\langle r_0, r_1, r_2 \rangle$  has the same size modulo  $\pi$  as in characteristic 0, namely 12. (These row vectors correspond naturally to the vertices of the base icosahedron in  $\{3, 5, 3\}$ .) This is a routine check, so we get

**Proposition 0.1.** *Let  $G = [3, 5, 3]$ . For any prime  $\pi \in \mathbb{D}$ , the group  $G^\pi = \langle r_0, r_1, r_2, r_3 \rangle^\pi$  is a finite string  $C$ -group. The corresponding finite regular polytope  $\mathcal{P}^\pi$  is self-dual and has icosahedral facets  $\{3, 5\}$  and dodecahedral vertex figures  $\{5, 3\}$ .*

A more detailed description of  $G^\pi$  depends on the nature of the prime  $\pi$ . In all cases the underlying finite field  $\mathbb{K} := \mathbb{D}/(\pi)$  has order  $|N(\pi)|$ , and  $G^\pi$  acts as an orthogonal group on a 4-dimensional vector space  $V$  over  $\mathbb{K}$ .

**Case 1:**  $\pi = 2$ . Here an easy calculation using GAP confirms that  $G^\pi$  is the orthogonal group  $O(4, 2^2, -1)$  with Witt index 1 over  $\mathbb{K} = GF(2^2)$ . Since  $|G^2| = 8160$ , the polytope  $\mathcal{P}^2$  has 68 vertices and 68 icosahedral facets.

**Case 2:**  $\pi = \sqrt{5} = 2\tau - 1$ . Here  $|\pi\pi'| = 5 \equiv 0 \pmod{\pi}$ , so that the discriminant  $\delta = -(2 + 5\tau) \equiv 3 \pmod{\pi}$ , which is non-square in  $\mathbb{K} = GF(5)$ . Thus  $\varepsilon = -1$  and  $G^\pi = O_1(4, 5, -1)$  has order 15600.

**Case 3:**  $\pi$  is an associate of an odd rational prime  $p \equiv \pm 2 \pmod{5}$ . Now  $G^p = O_1(4, p^2, \varepsilon)$ , where

$$\varepsilon := \begin{cases} +1, & \text{if } p \equiv 3, 12, 23, 27, 37, 38, 42, 47, 48, 53 \pmod{55}; \\ -1, & \text{if } p \equiv 2, 7, 8, 13, 17, 18, 28, 32, 43, 52 \pmod{55}. \end{cases}$$

**Case 4:**  $\pi = a + b\tau$ , with norm  $N(\pi) = a^2 + ab - b^2 = q$ , where the rational prime  $q \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{5}$ . (But assume  $\pi$  is not an associate of  $\delta = -(2 + 5\tau)$ .) Now  $G^\pi = O_1(4, q, \varepsilon)$ , where  $\varepsilon = ((5ab - 2b^2) | q)$  can be computed using the rational Legendre symbol.

**Case 5 – the most interesting!:**  $\pi = \delta = -(2 + 5\tau)$ , the only case in which the orthogonal space  $V$  is singular. Now  $\mathbb{K} = GF(11)$  and  $\tau = -2/5 = 4$ . We find that  $\text{rad}(V)$  is spanned by  $c = 7b_0 + 3b_1 + 2b_2 + b_3$ , and that  $V = \text{rad}(V) \perp V_3$ , where  $V_3$  is the non-singular subspace spanned by  $b_0, b_1, b_2$ . Then  $O(V) \simeq \check{V}_3 \rtimes (\mathbb{K}^* \times O(V_3))$ , and the subgroup

$$G^\delta = \widehat{O}_1(V) \simeq \check{V}_3 \rtimes O_1(V_3)$$

has order  $11^3 \cdot 11 \cdot (11^2 - 1)$ . The isometry  $z = (r_0 r_1 r_2)^5$  now acts as the *central inversion* in the group  $O_1(V_3)$  for the icosahedral facet. And  $G^\delta$  has a normal subgroup  $A$  isomorphic to  $\check{V}_3 \rtimes \langle z \rangle$  with order  $2 \cdot 11^3$ . Using the fact that  $O_1(3, 11, 0) \simeq PSL_2(11) \rtimes C_2$ , we conclude that

$$\overline{G} := G^\delta / A \simeq PSL_2(11),$$

of order 660. Remarkably,  $\overline{G}$  is also a string  $C$ -group. The resulting polytope is the 11-cell independently discovered by Coxeter in [3] and Grünbaum in [1]. Indeed, both  $r_0 r_1 r_2$  and  $r_1 r_2 r_3$  have period 5 in the quotient and

$$\mathcal{P}(\overline{G}) = \{ \{3, 5\}_5, \{5, 3\}_5 \}$$

is the universal 4-polytope with hemi-icosahedral facets and hemi-dodecahedral vertex-figures.

A similar analysis is possible for the group  $H = [5, 3, 5]$  with diagram

$$\Delta(H) = \bullet \text{---} \tau^2 \text{---} \tau^2 \text{---} \bullet$$

and corresponding discriminant  $\frac{-1}{16}(3 + 7\tau) \sim -(3 + 7\tau) =: \lambda$ . Since  $N(\lambda) = -19$ , we see that  $\lambda$  is also prime. The group  $H^\lambda$  for the singular space  $V$  again has an interesting quotient, giving

$$\overline{H} \simeq PSL_2(19)$$

as the automorphism group for the universal regular polytope

$$\mathcal{P}(\overline{H}) = \{ \{5, 3\}_5, \{3, 5\}_5 \},$$

with hemi-dodecahedral facets and hemi-icosahedral vertex-figures. This is the 57-cell described by Coxeter in [2].

## References

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