

# *RIGIDITY OF CONFIGURATIONS OF POINTS AND SPHERES*

*Opal Graham*  
*Florida State University*



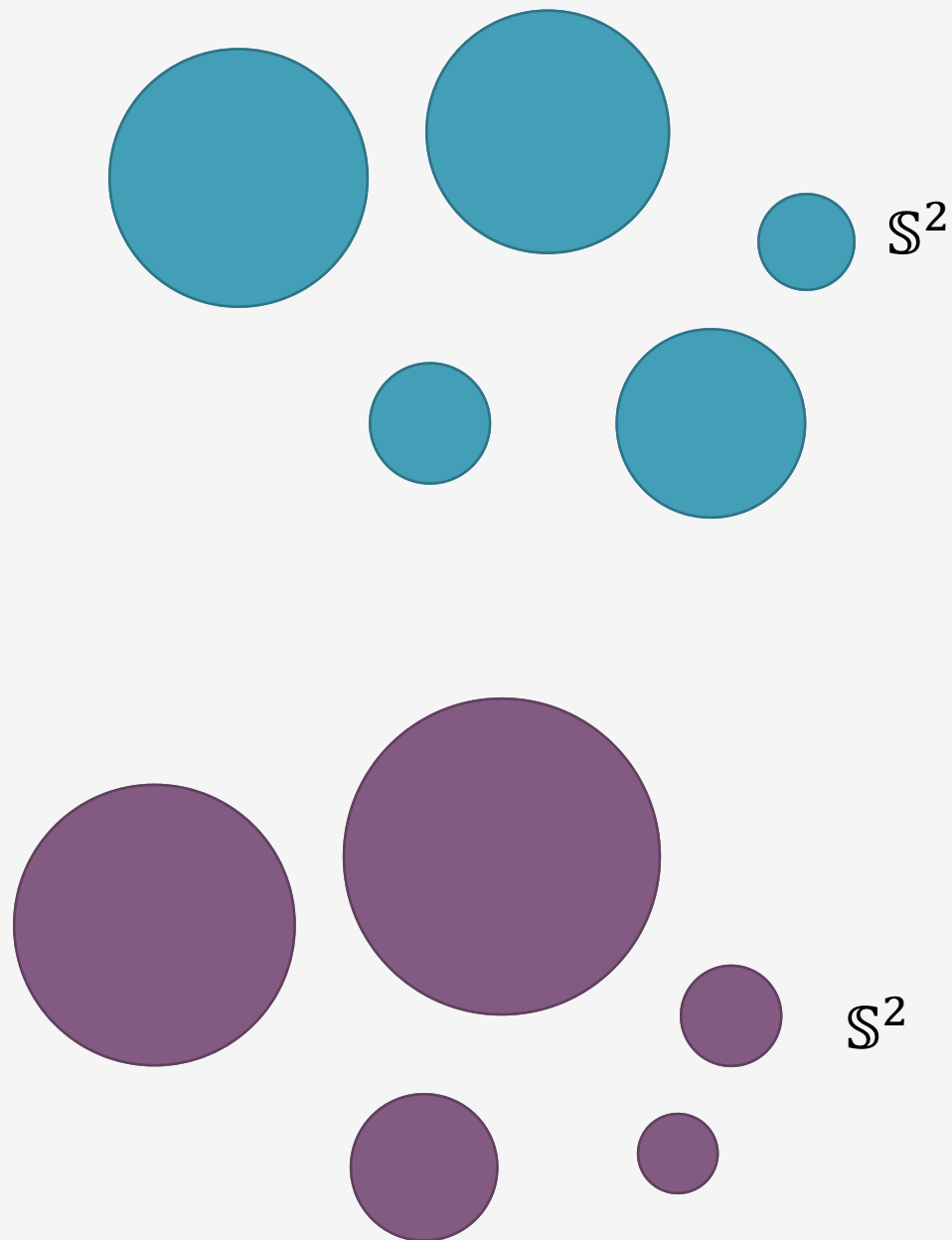
FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY  
**Mathematics**



# *Beardon & Minda*

Conformal  
automorphisms of finitely  
connected regions ('o8)

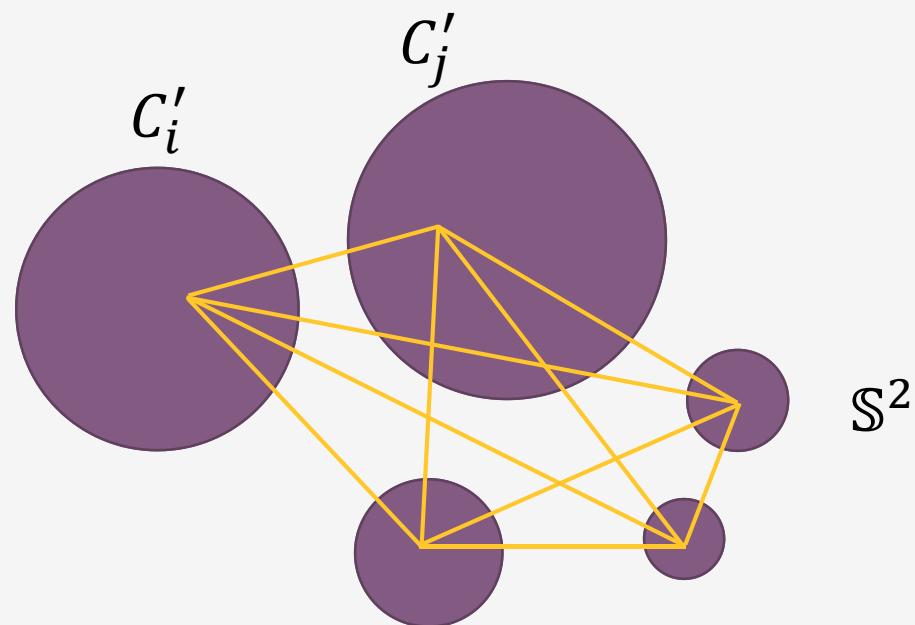
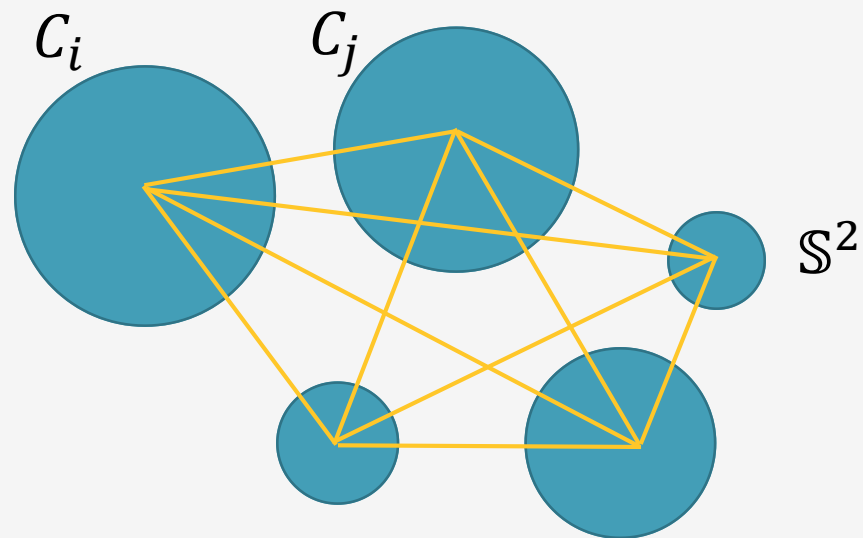
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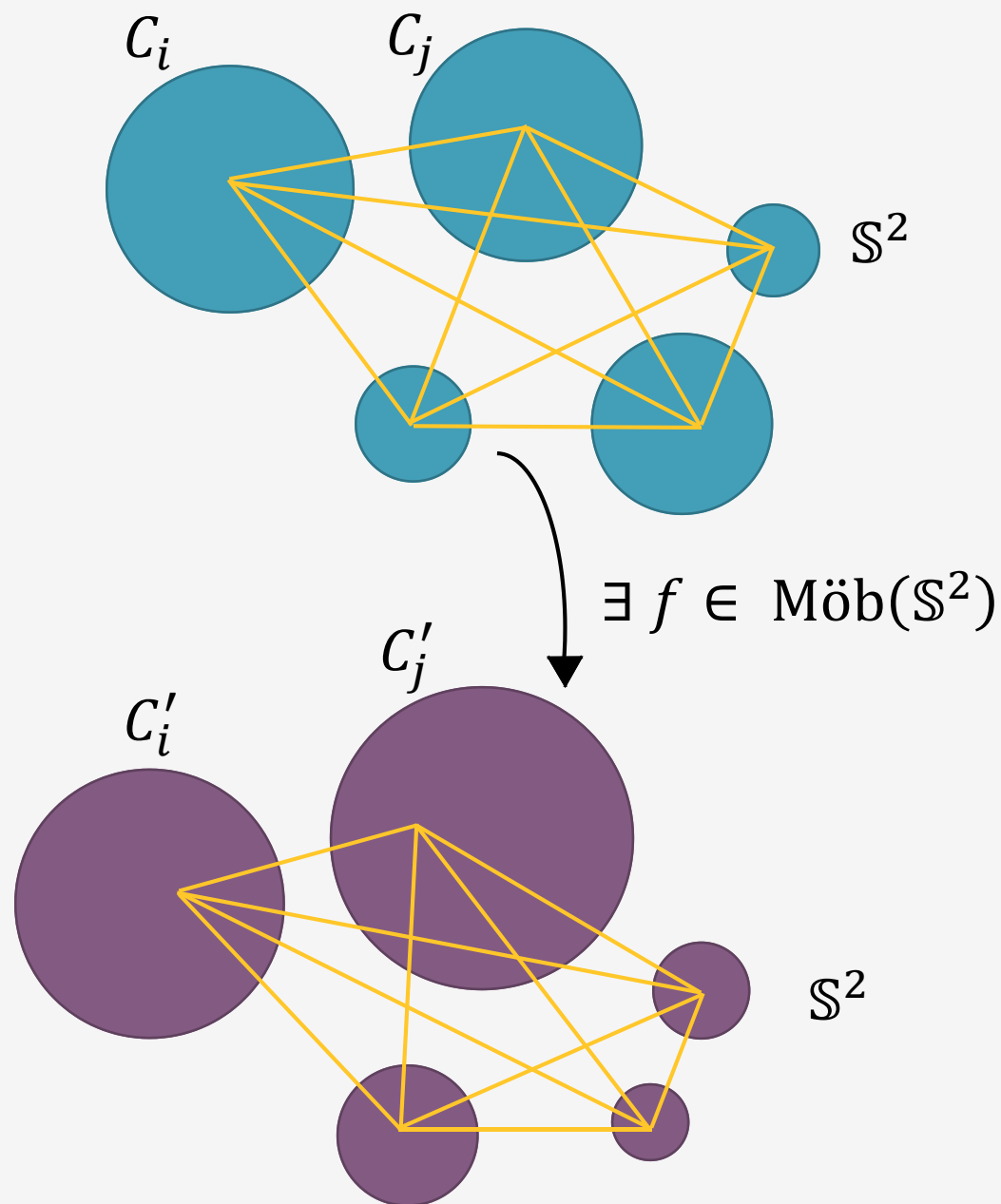
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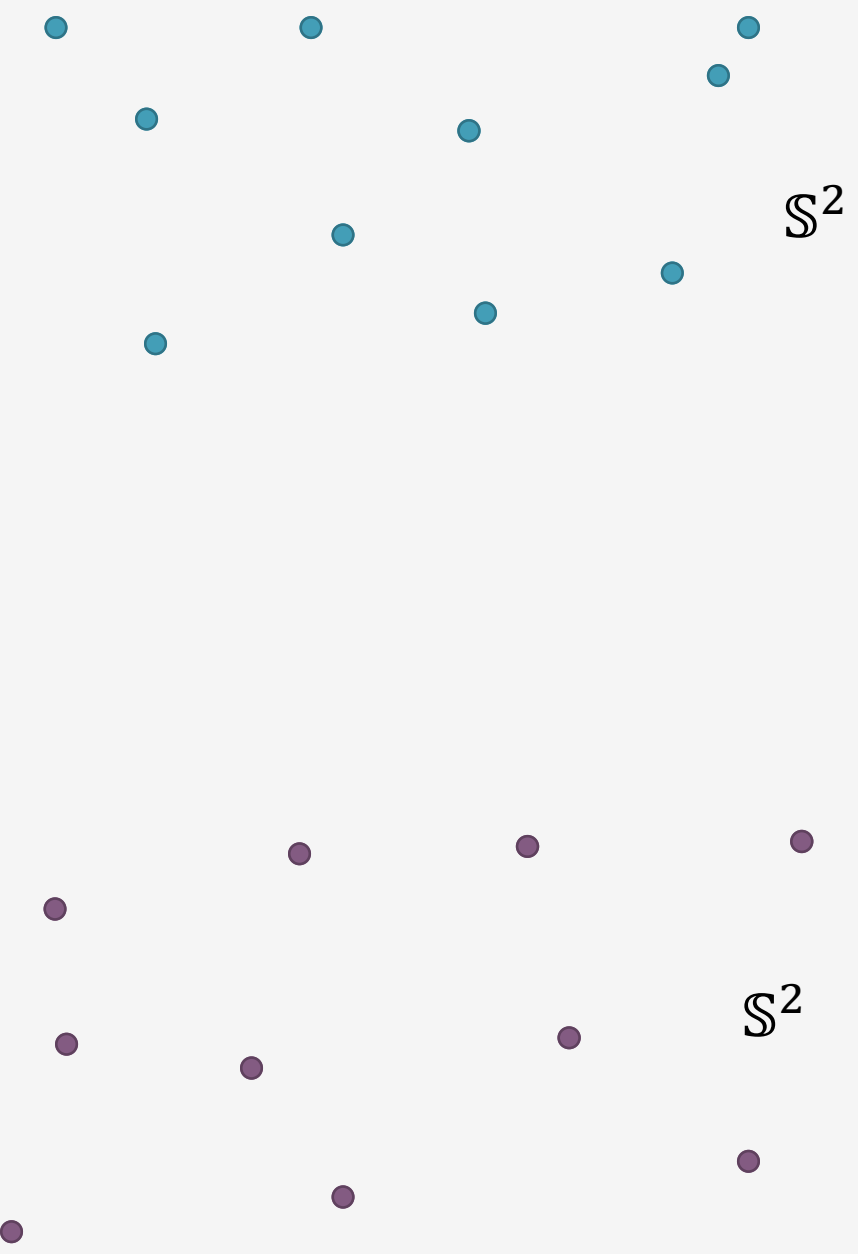


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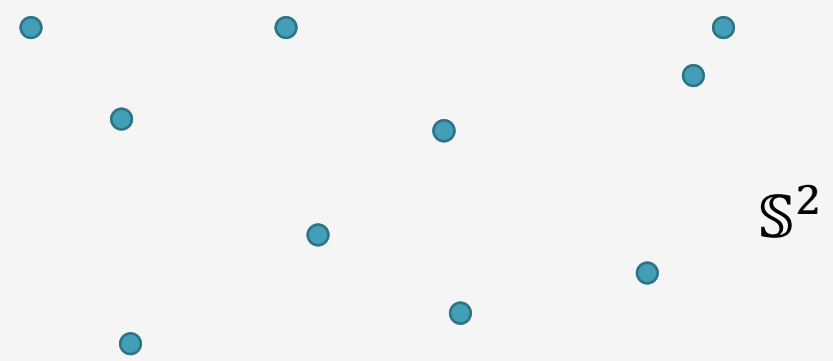




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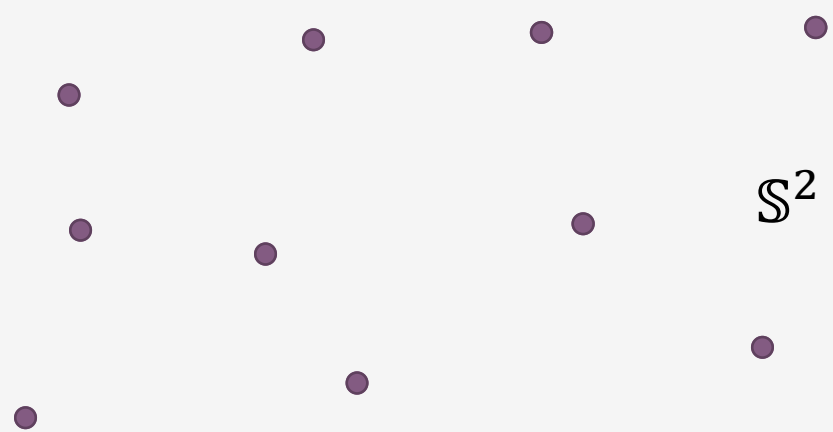


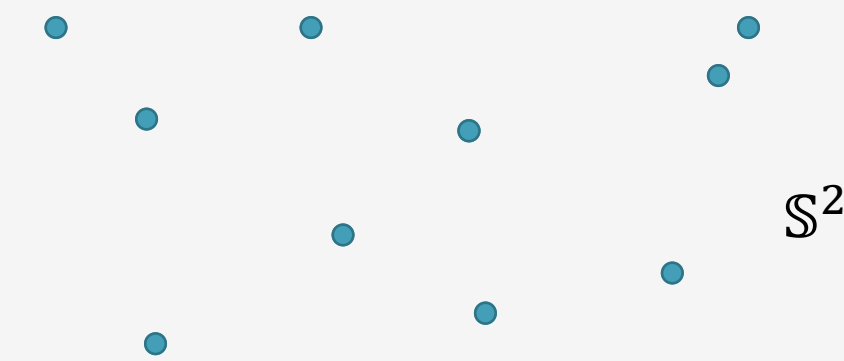
$$|p_i, p_j, p_k, p_l| = |p'_i, p'_j, p'_k, p'_l| \quad \forall \text{ 4-tuples}$$

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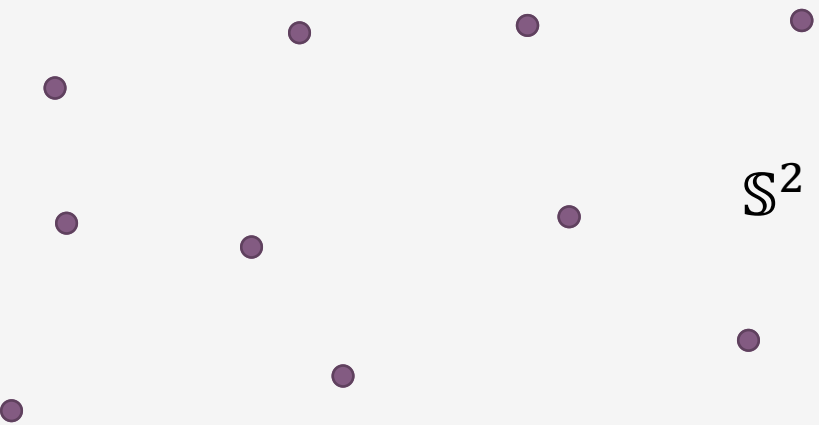
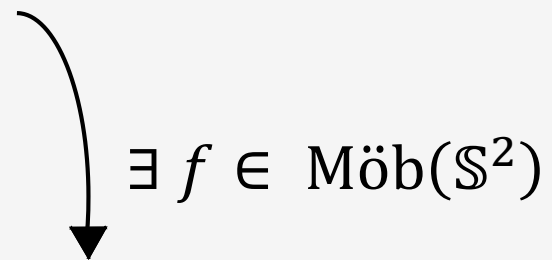
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$\mathbb{S}^2$

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$\mathbb{S}^2$

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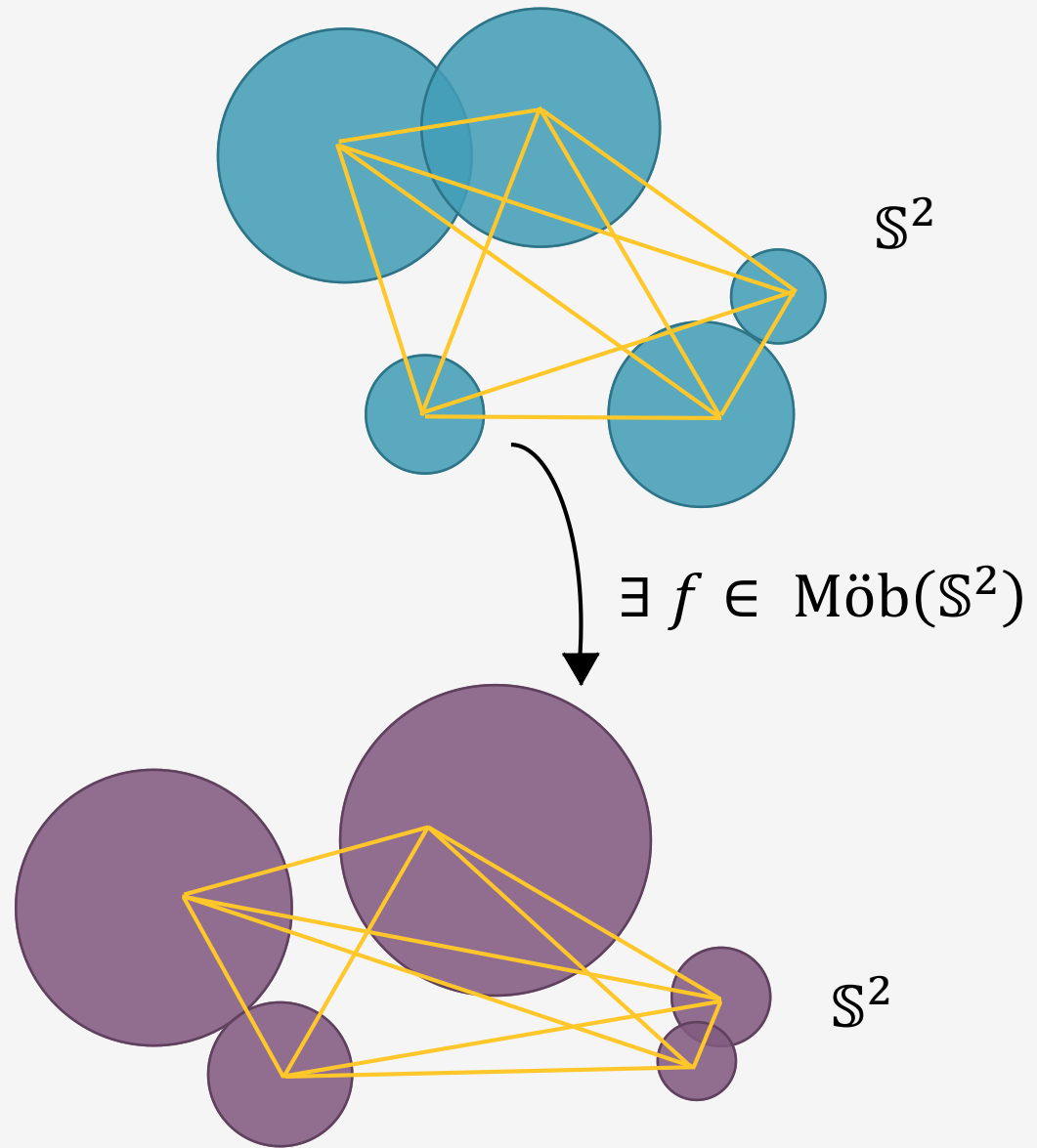
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**Question 1.** Is the conclusion valid when  $C_1, \dots, C_m$  are any set of  $m$  distinct circles in  $\mathbb{C}_\infty$ ?

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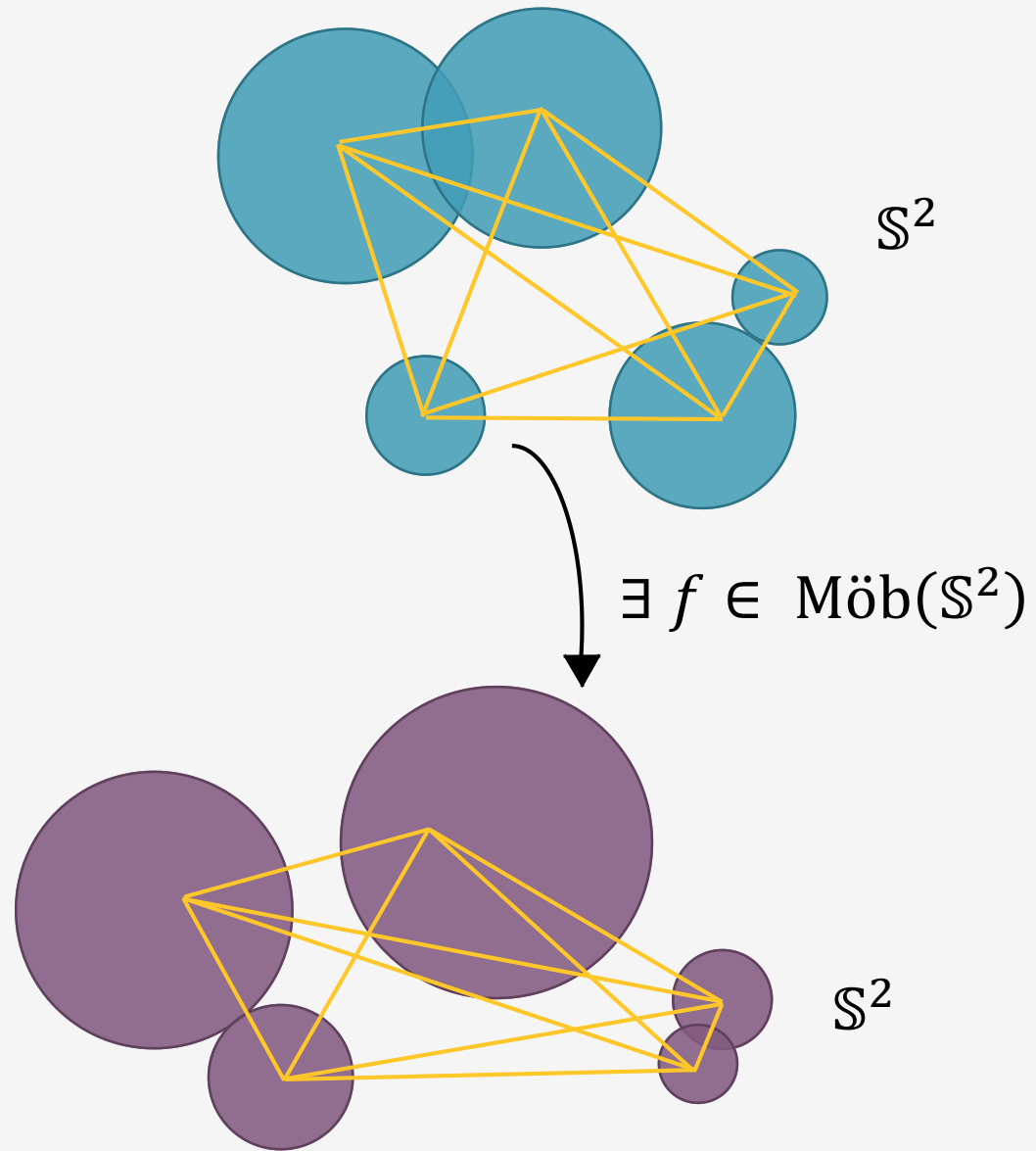
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**Crane & Short Answer:**  
Yes, with appropriate conditions.

*Beardon & Minda*

Conformal automorphisms of finitely connected regions ('08)

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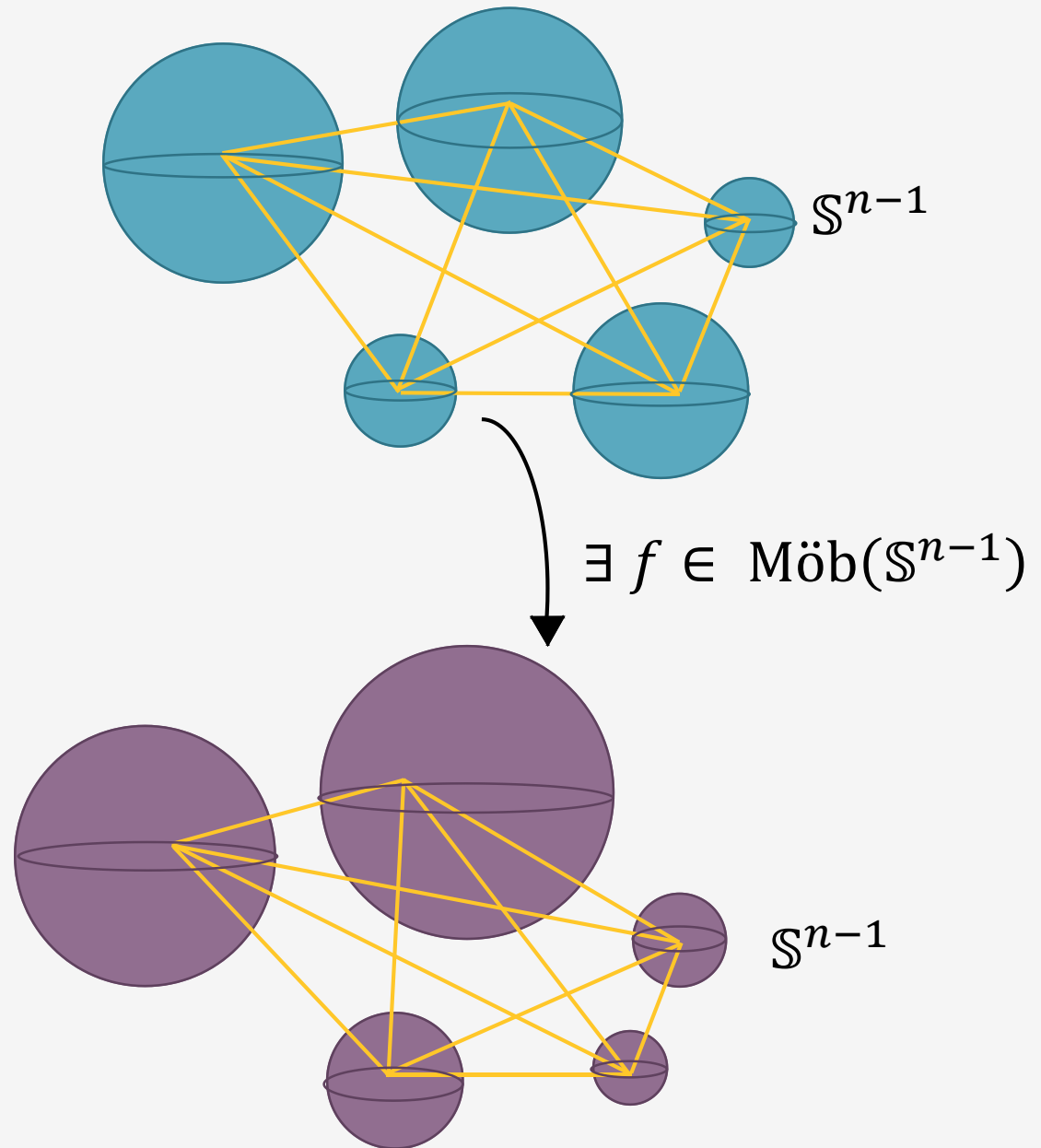


**Question 2.** Do both theorems generalize to higher dimensions?

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Conformal automorphisms of finitely connected regions ('o8)

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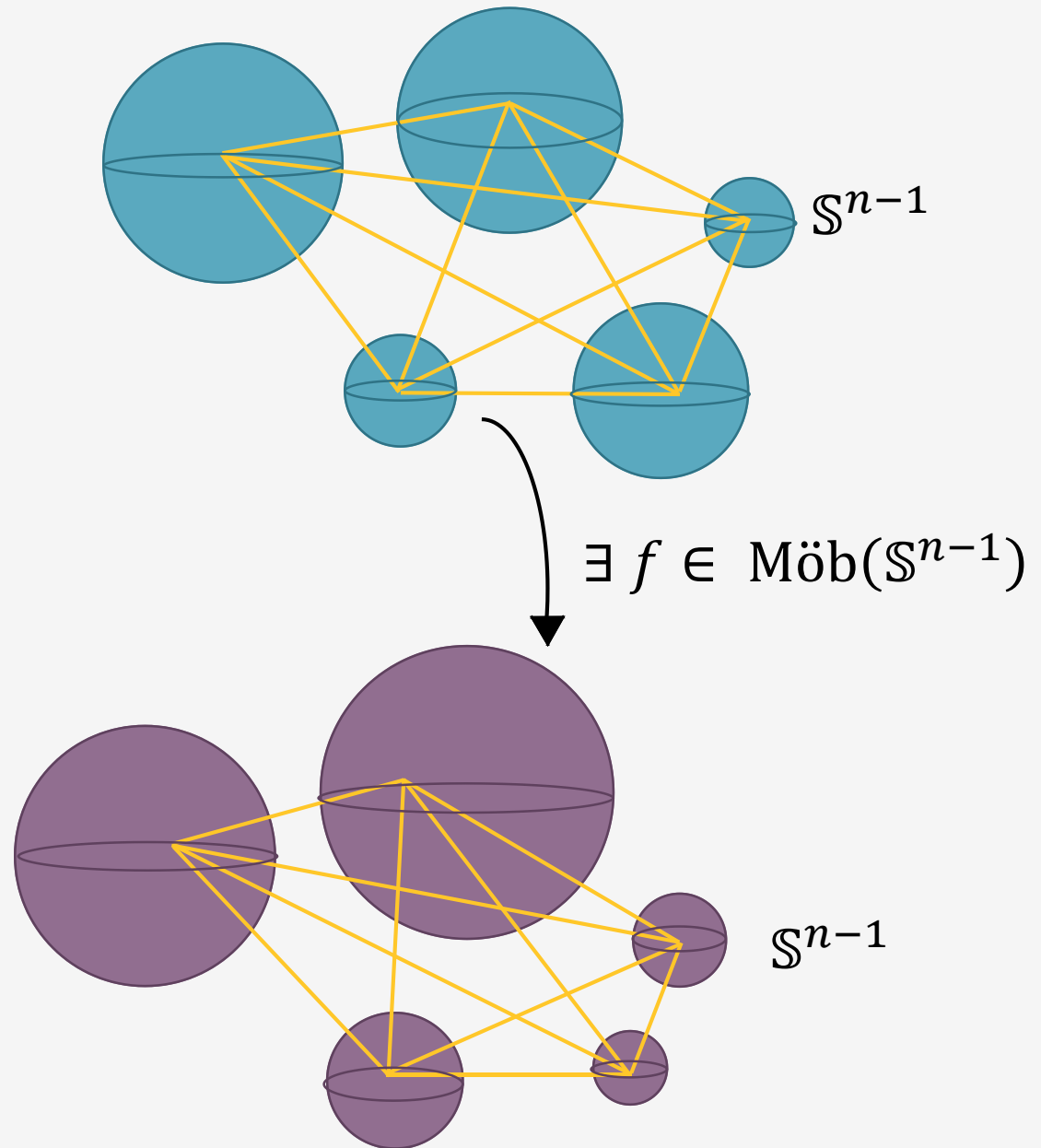
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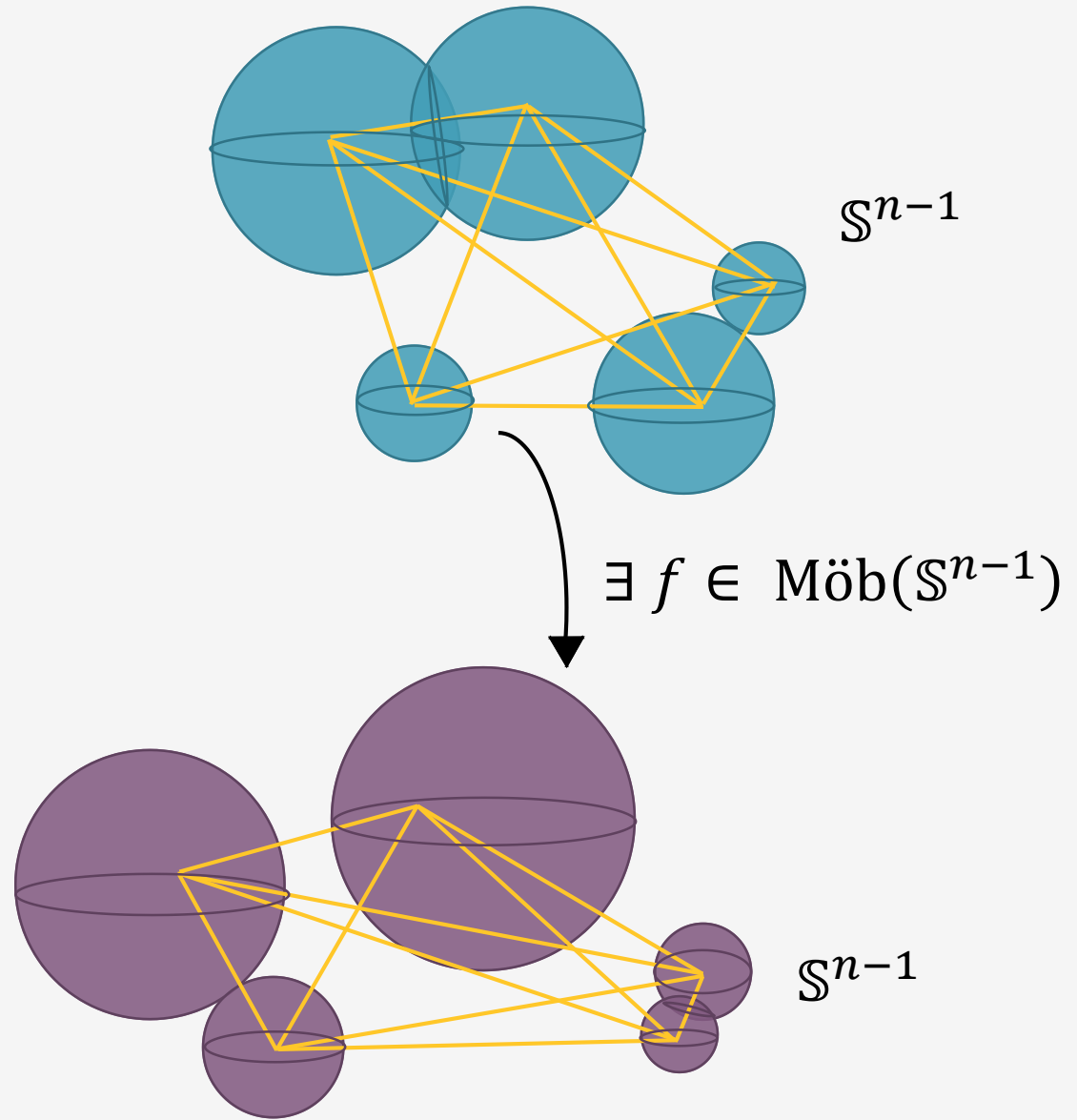
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## *Crane & Short*

Rigidity of Configurations  
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 $N$ -Sphere ('11)

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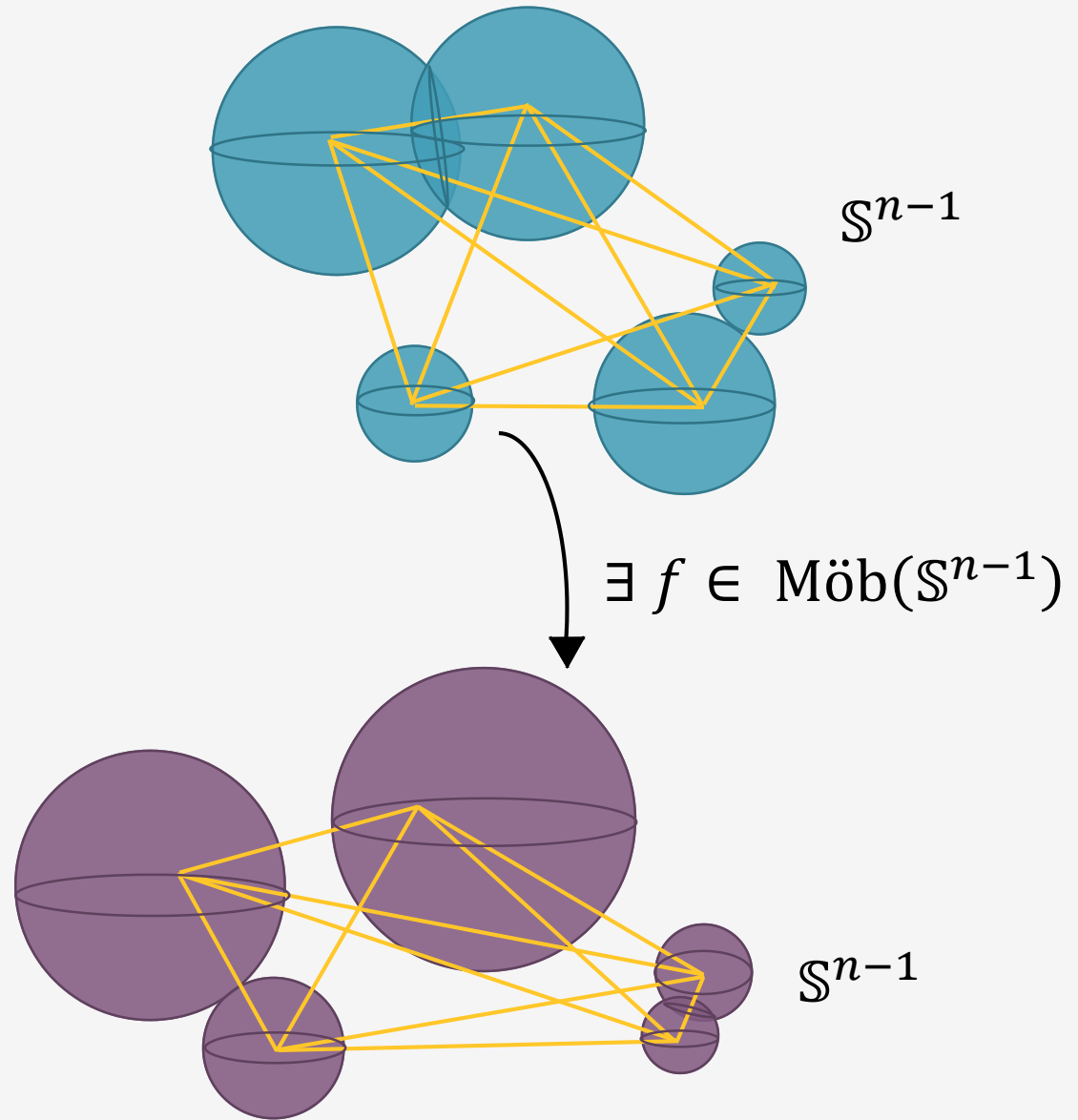


Requires *all* inversive distance information.

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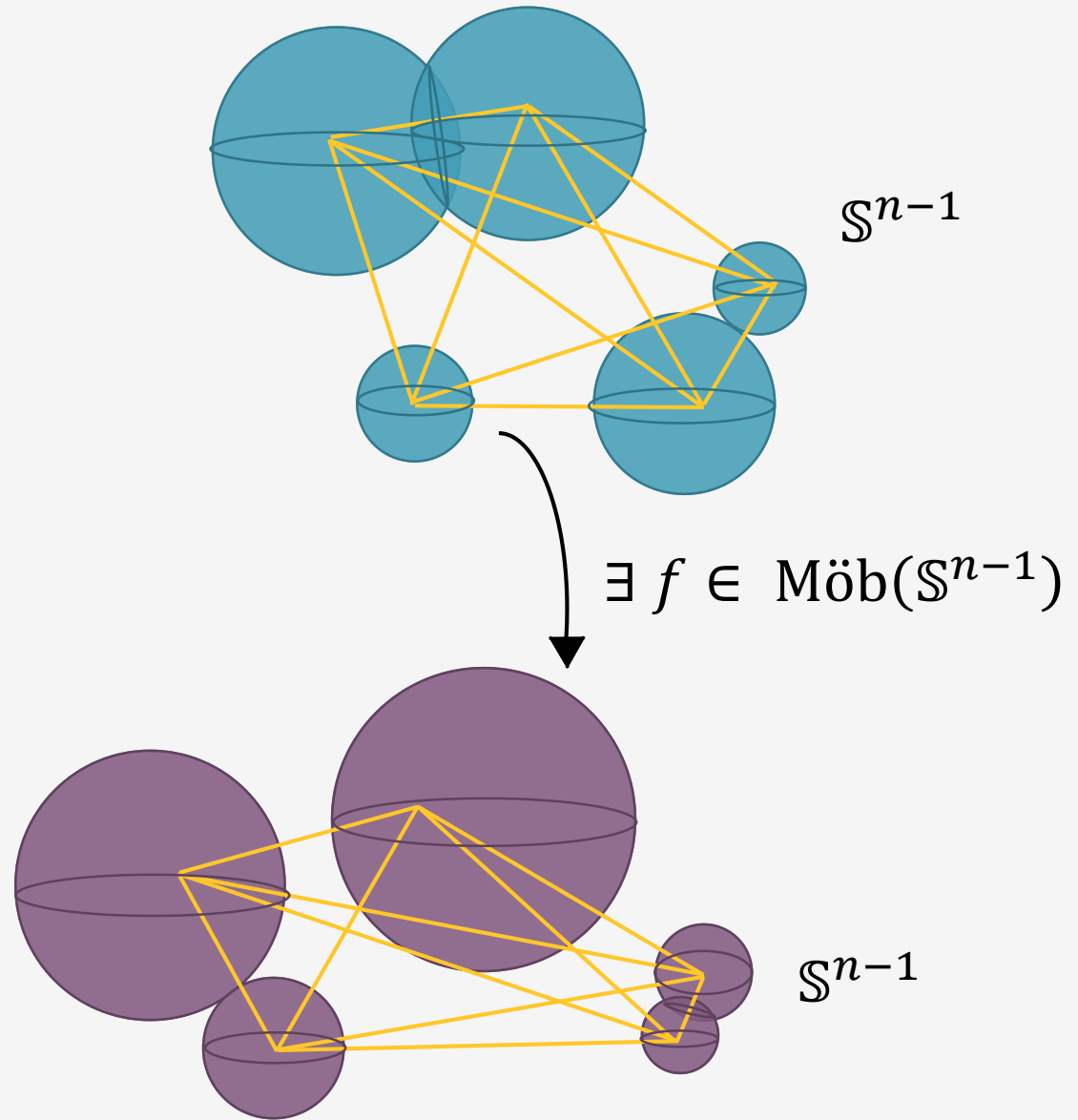
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**New question:** Can these results be improved upon?

## *Crane & Short*

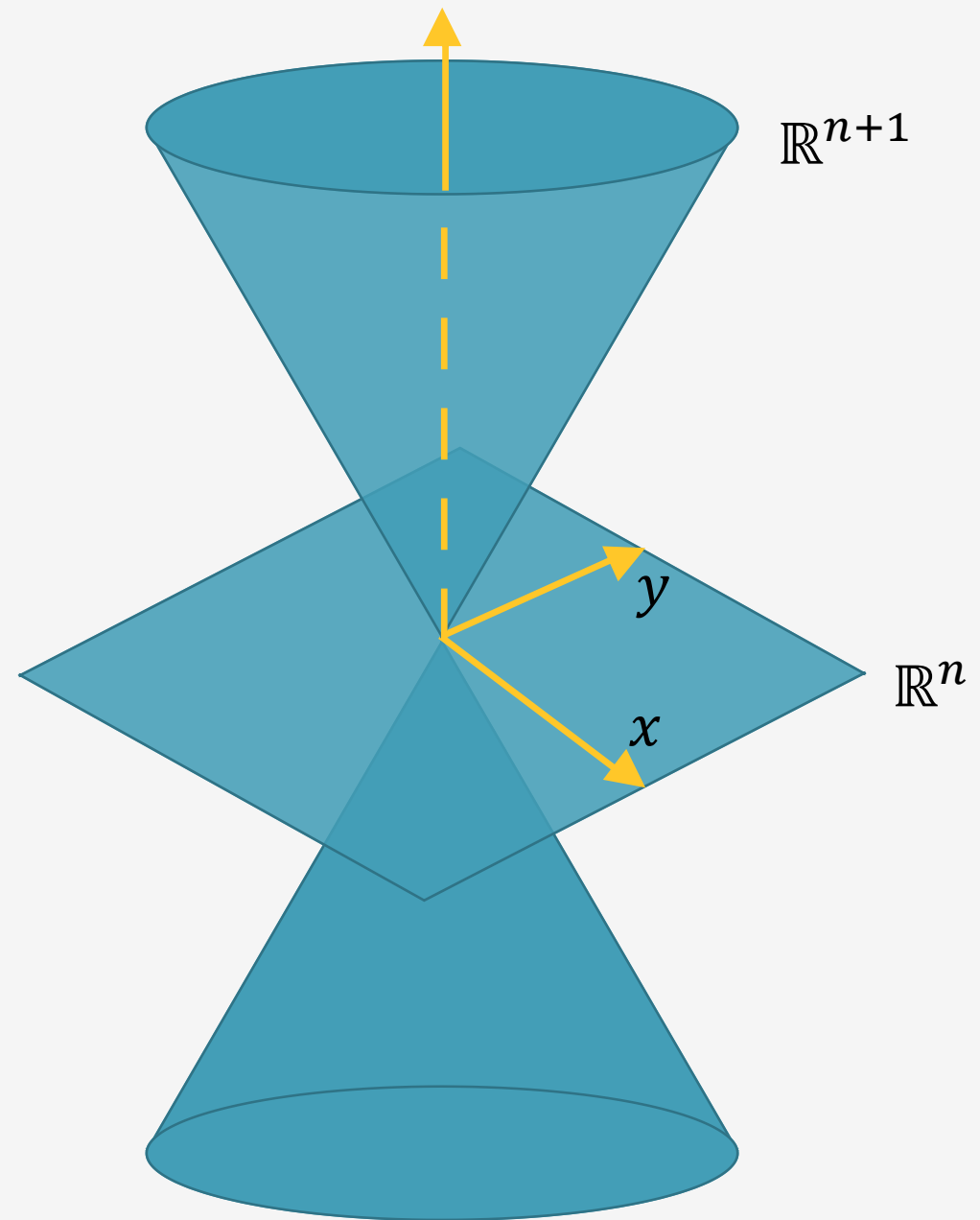
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# *Lorentz Space*

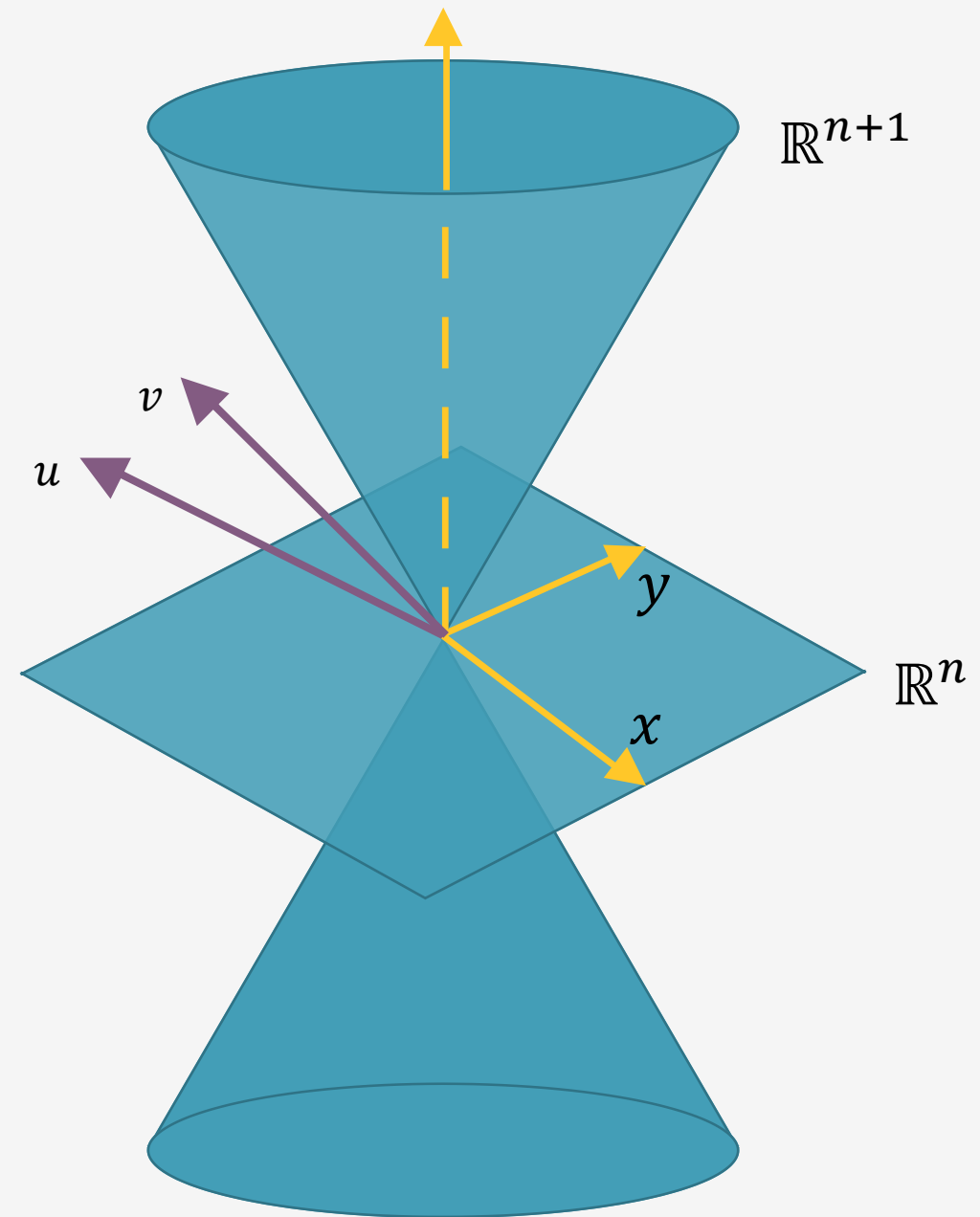
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# *Lorentz Space*

$\mathbb{R}^{n+1}, \langle \cdot \rangle:$

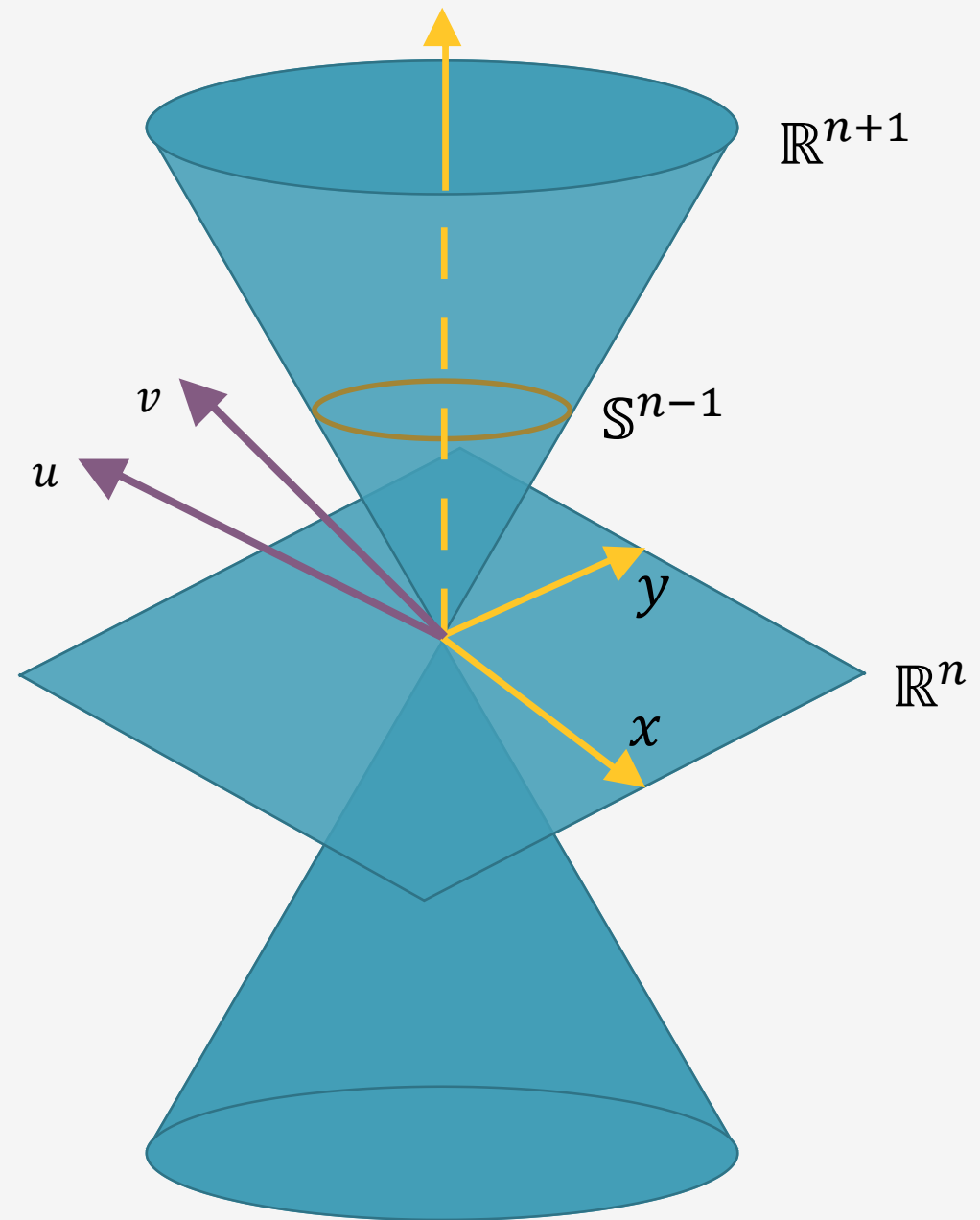
$$\langle u, v \rangle = u_1 v_1 + \cdots + u_n v_n - u_{n+1} v_{n+1}$$



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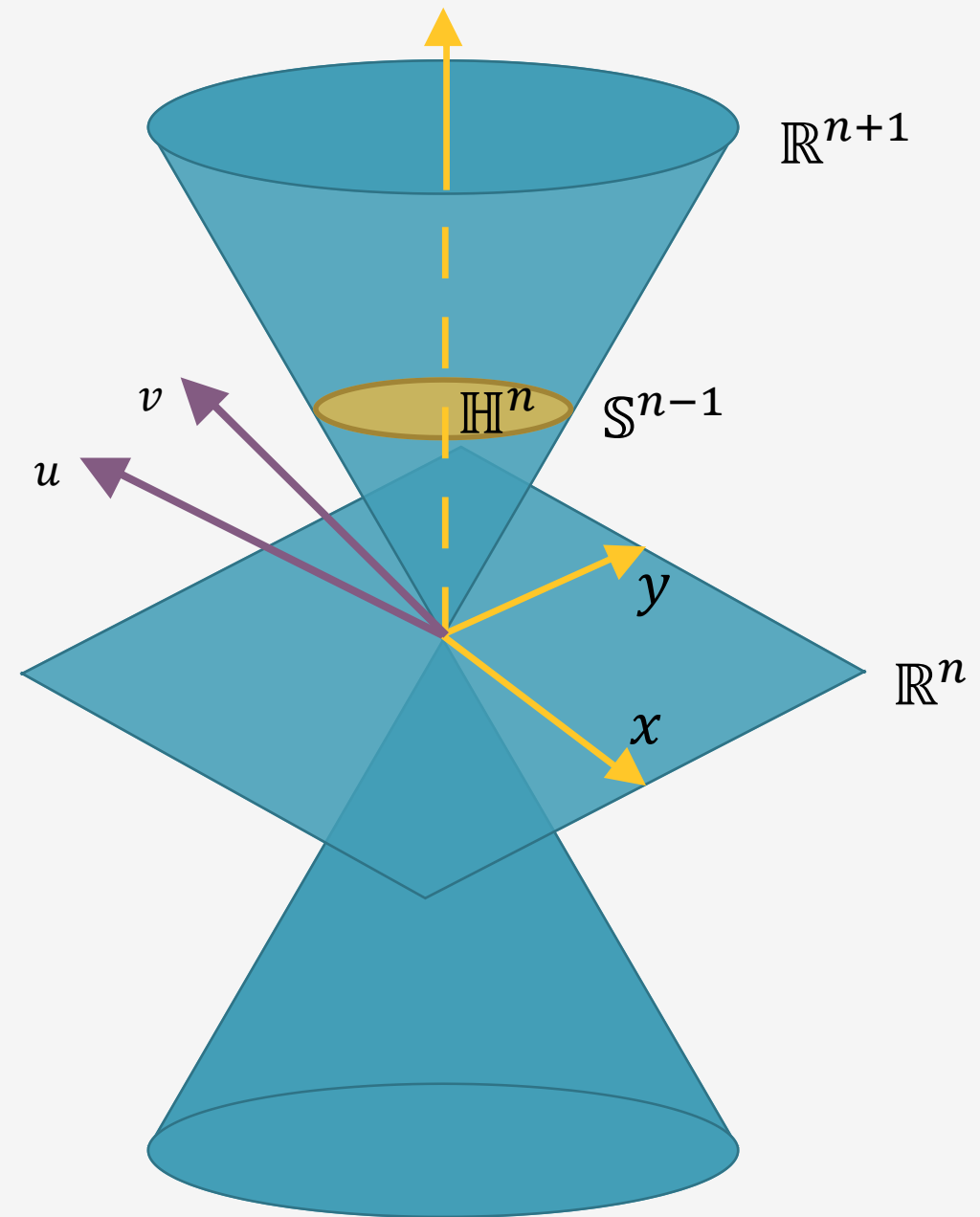
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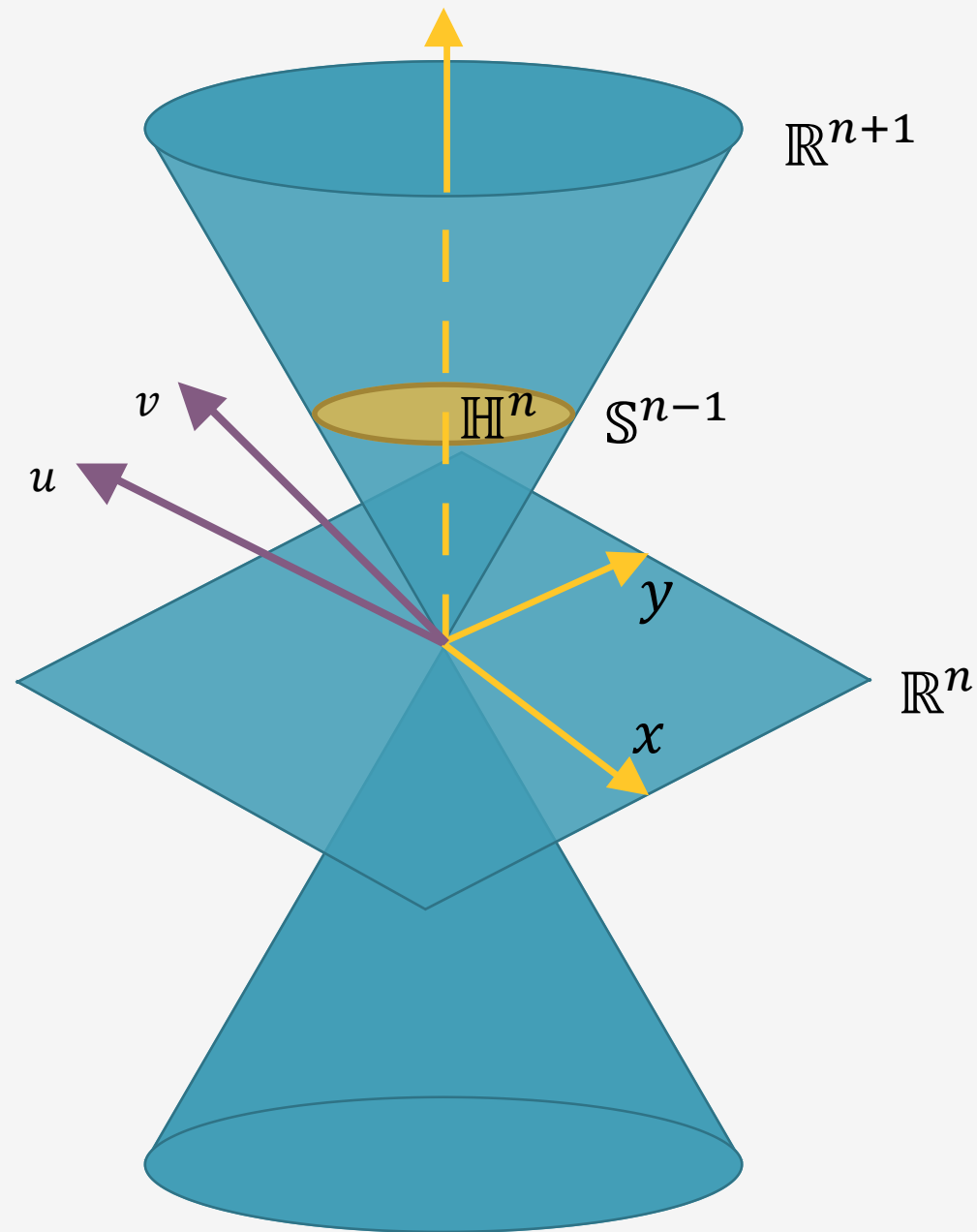


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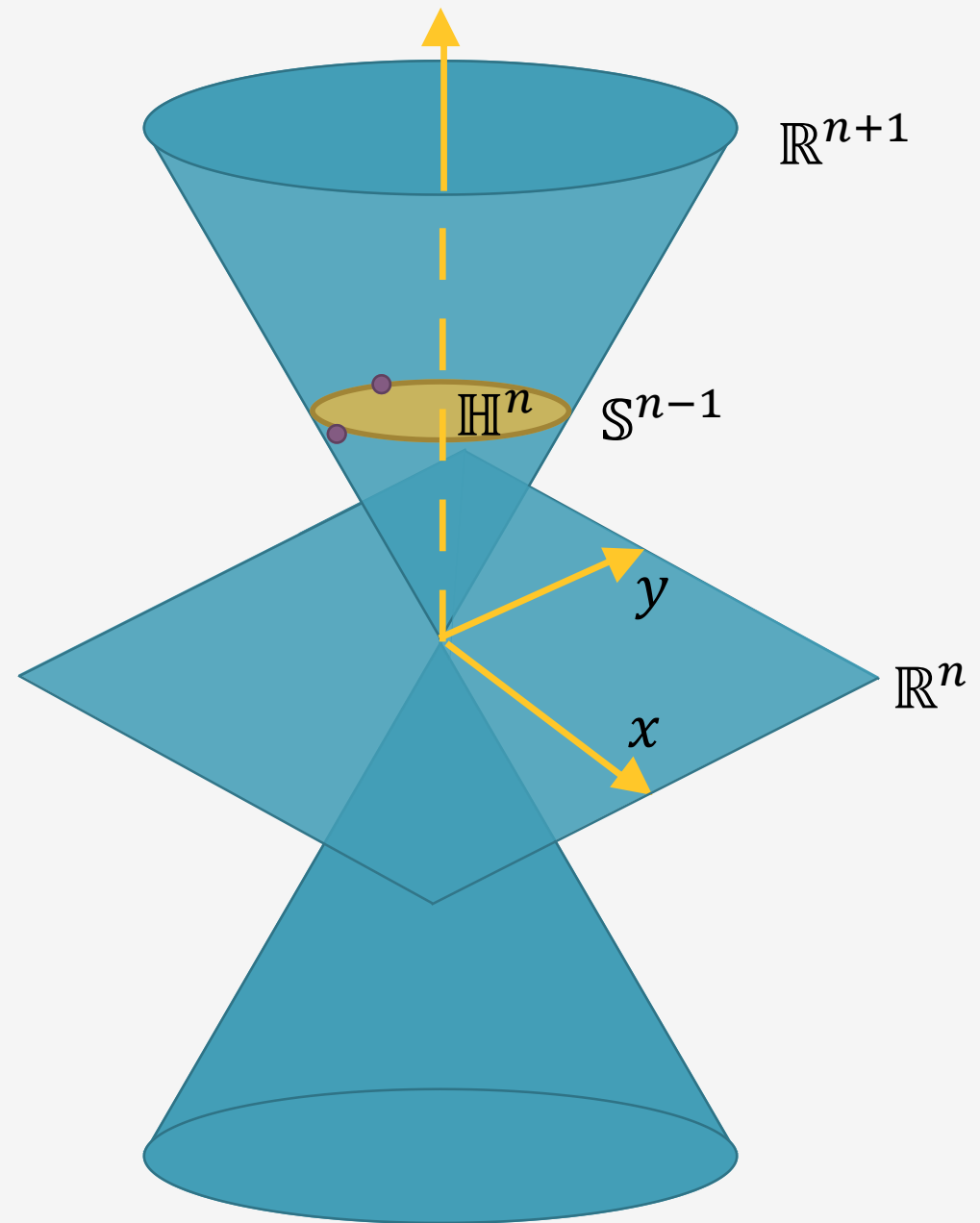
$$\langle u, v \rangle = u_1 v_1 + \cdots + u_n v_n - u_{n+1} v_{n+1}$$

$$SO^+(n, 1) \cong \text{Isom}^+(\mathbb{H}^n) \cong \text{Möb}(S^{n-1})$$



# *Lorentz Space*

$(n - 2)$ -spheres in  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$

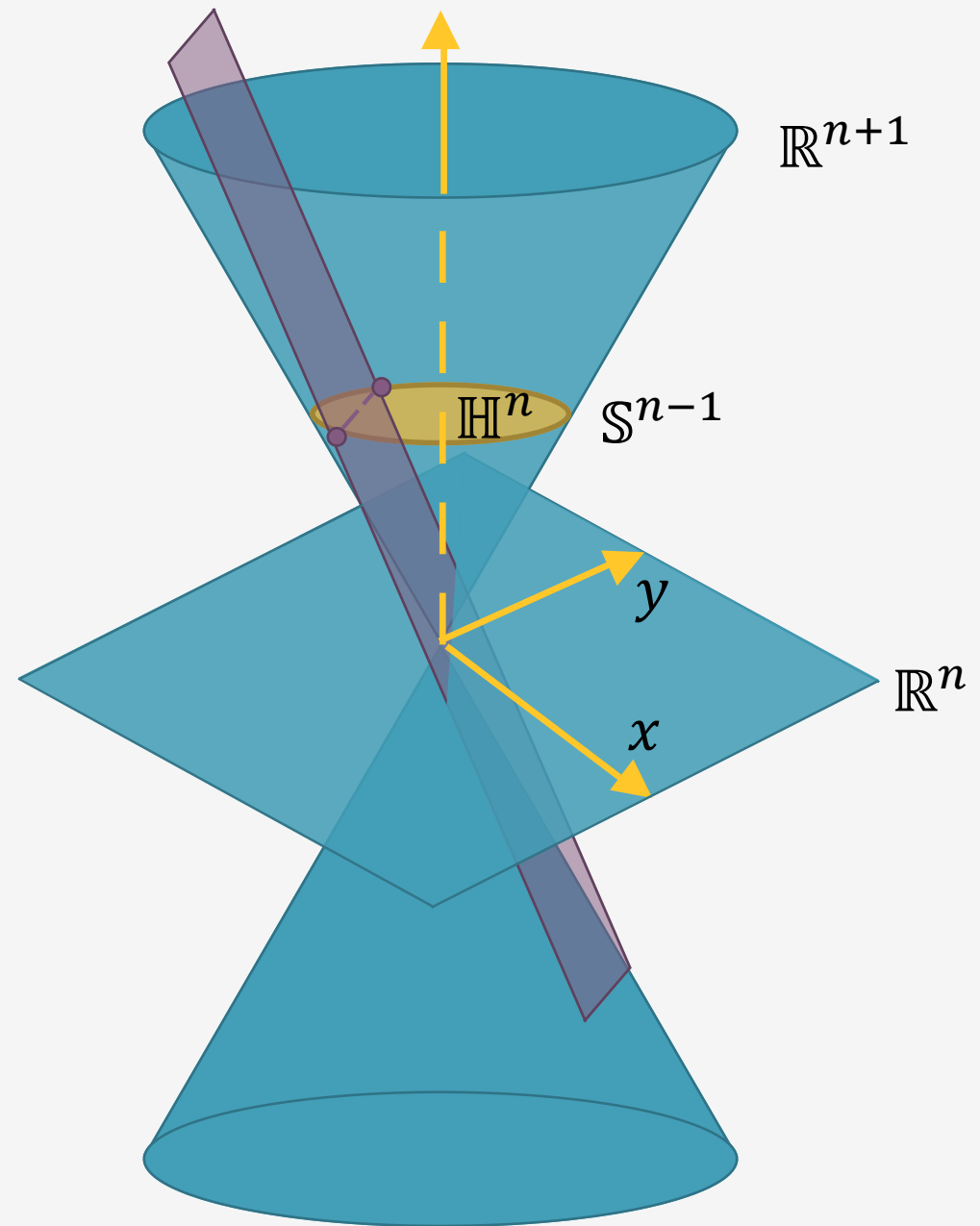


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$(n - 2)$ -spheres in  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$



Time-like Lorentz subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$



# *Lorentz Space*

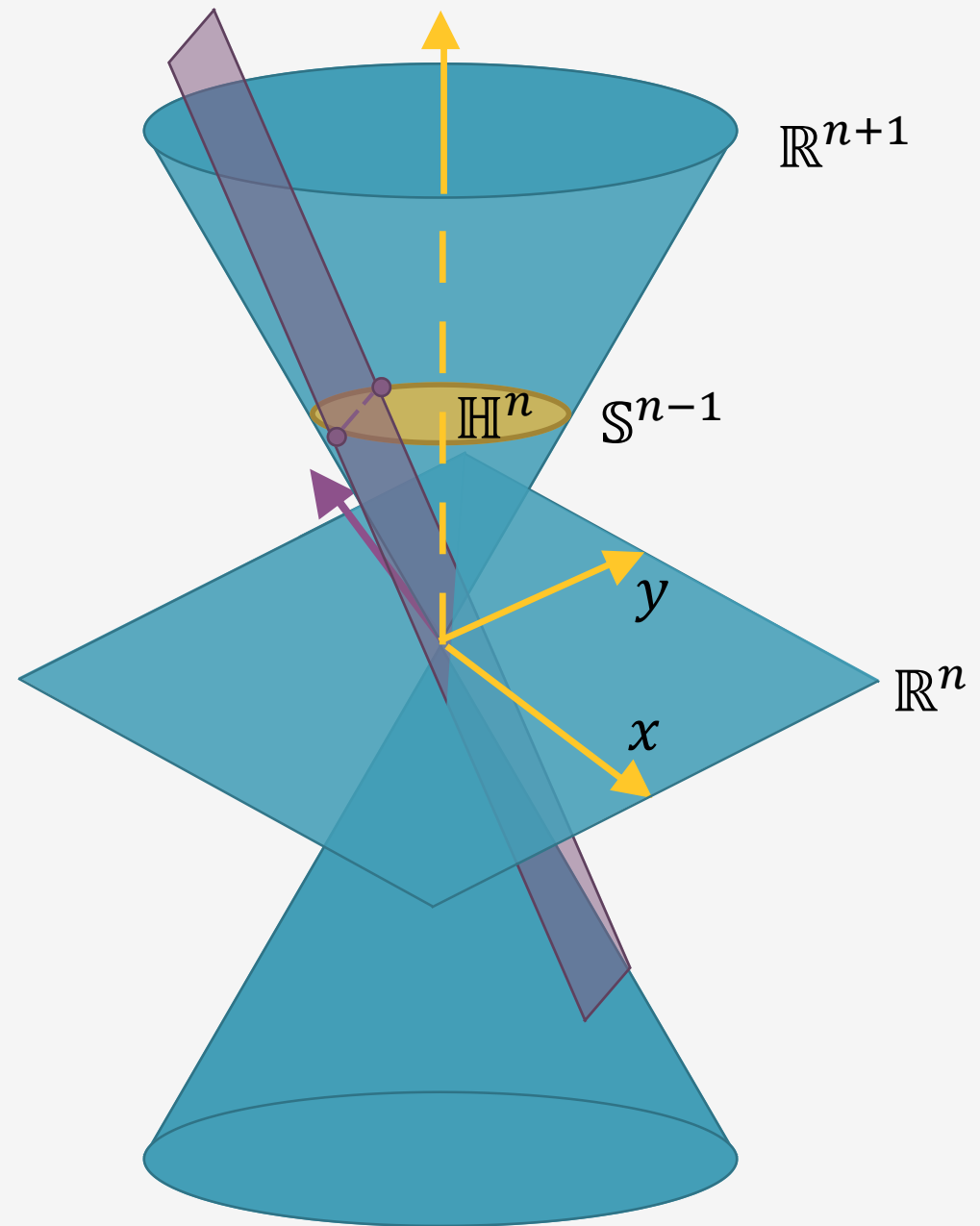
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Space-like Lorentz vectors



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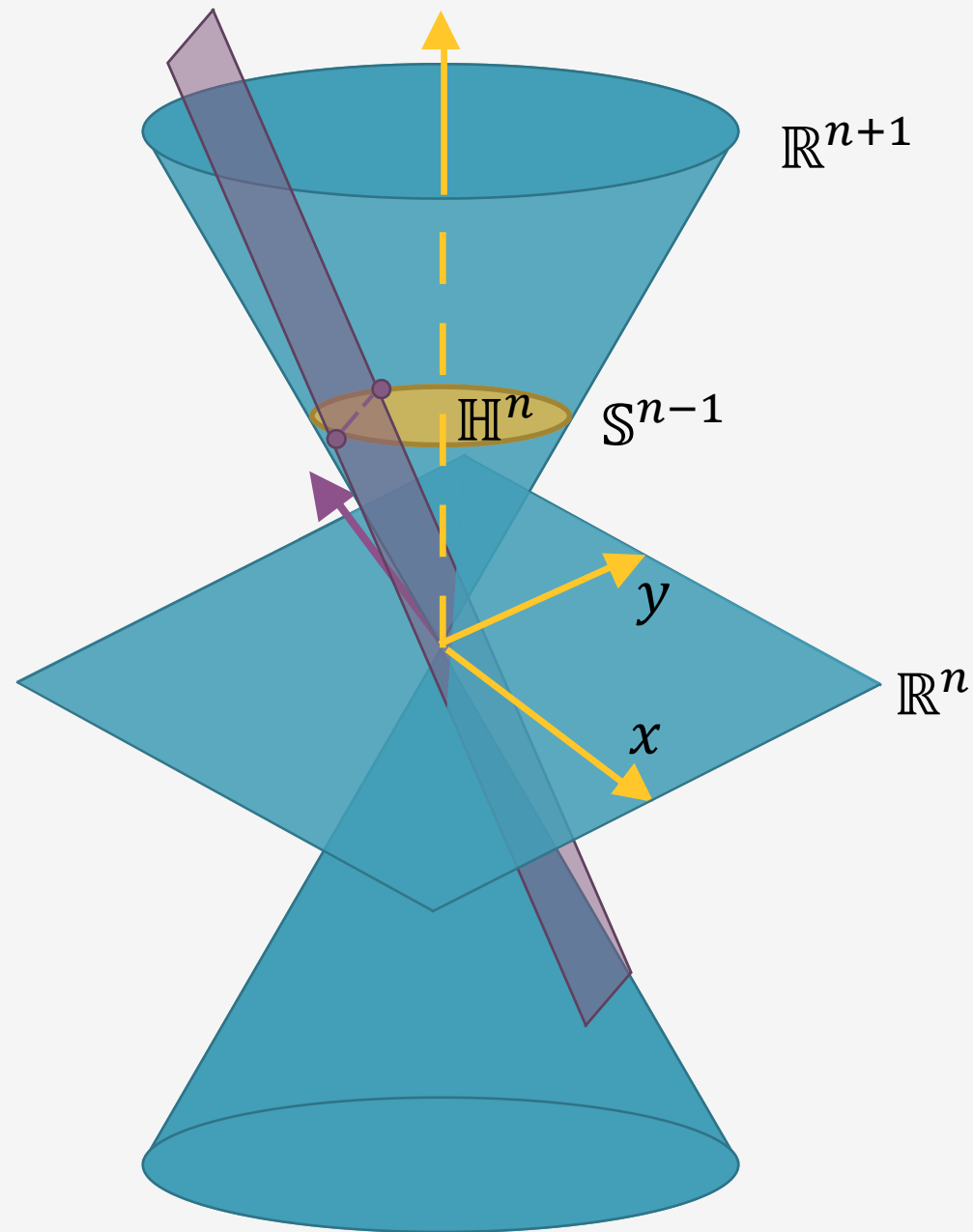
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Time-like Lorentz subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$   $\longleftrightarrow$

Space-like Lorentz vectors

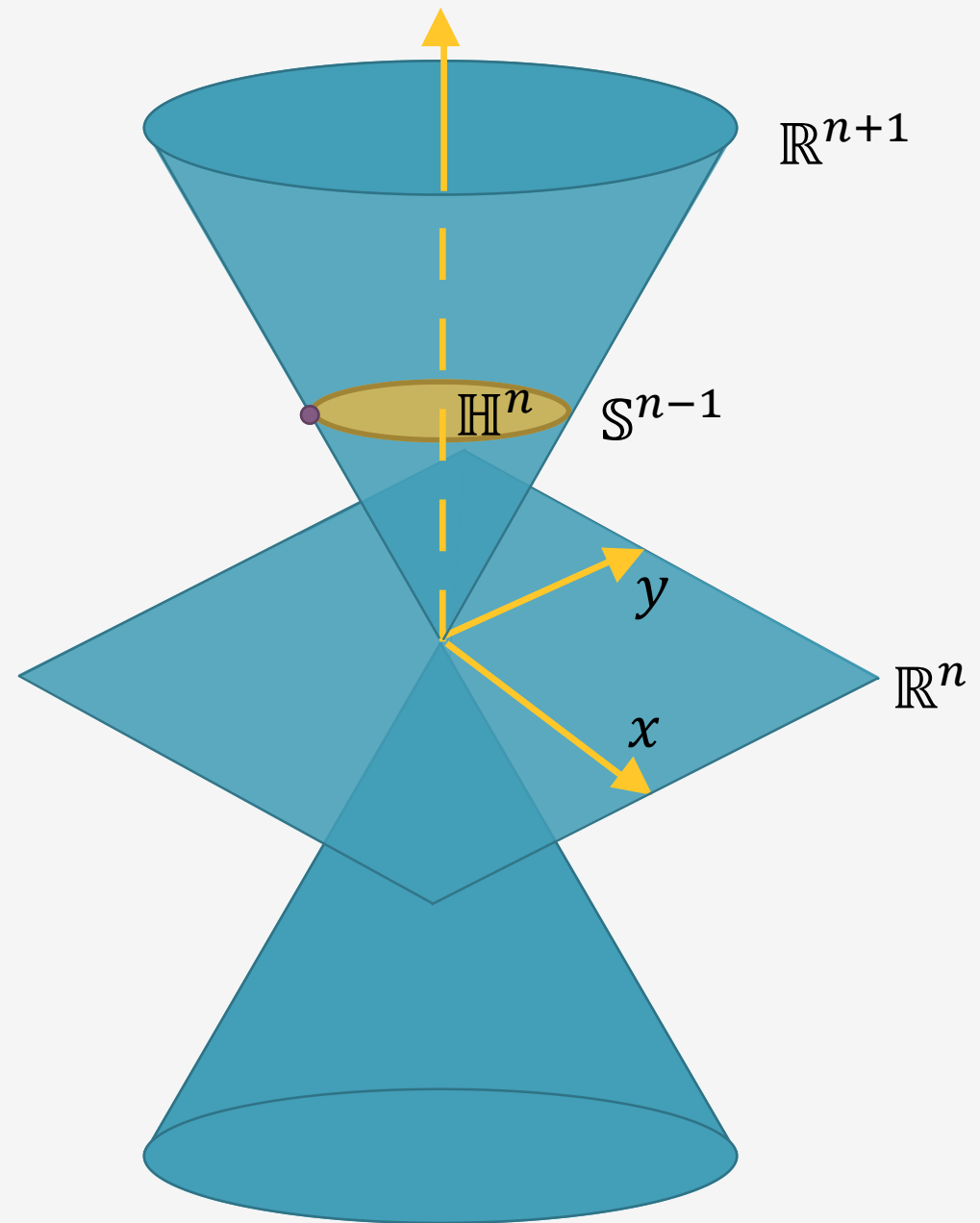
**Fact:** Lorentz inner product of two space-like vectors is equal to inversive distance of the corresponding  $(n - 2)$ -spheres.

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# *Lorentz Space*

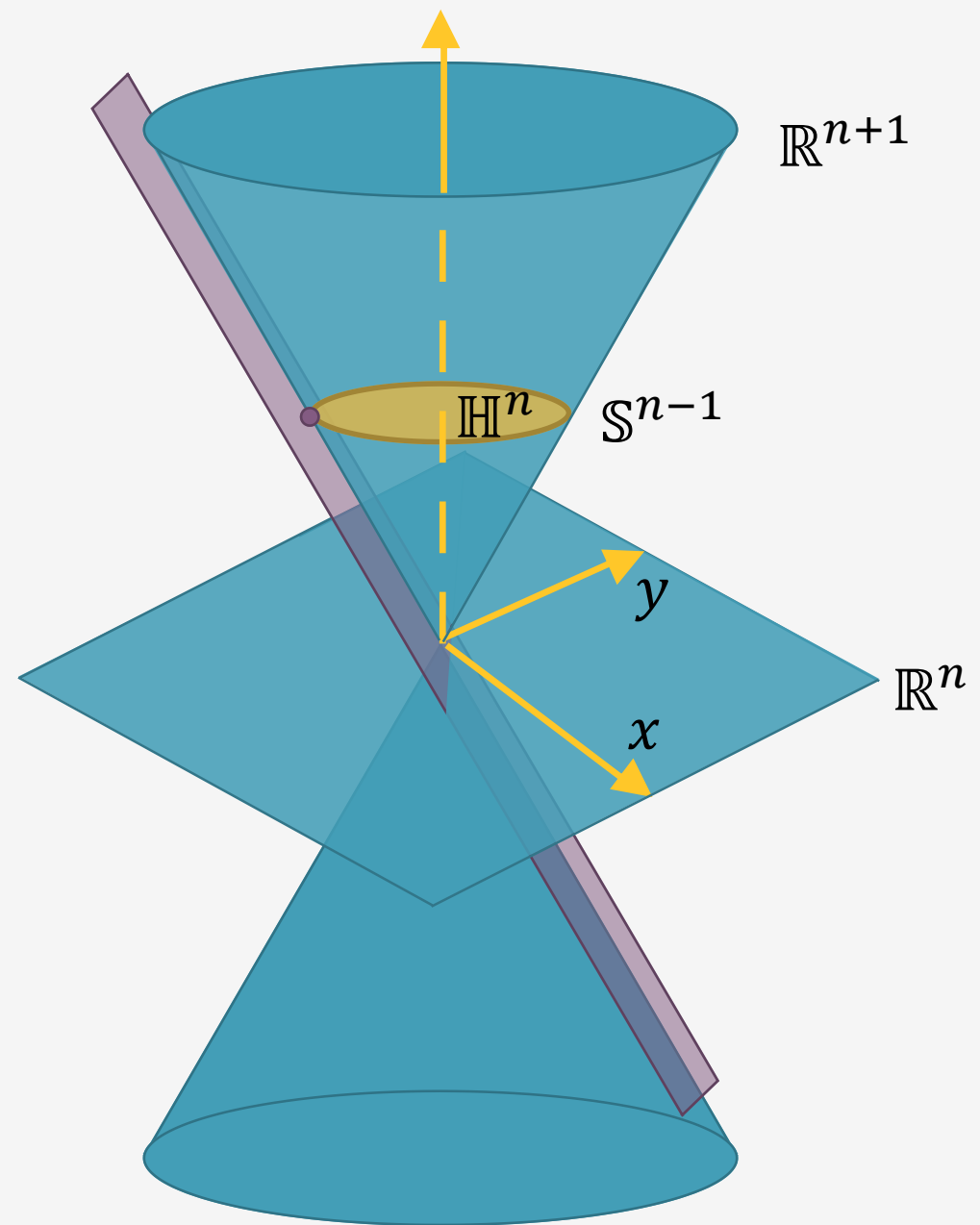
Ideal points in  $S^{n-1}$



# *Lorentz Space*

Ideal points in  $S^{n-1} \longleftrightarrow$

Light-like Lorentz Subspaces

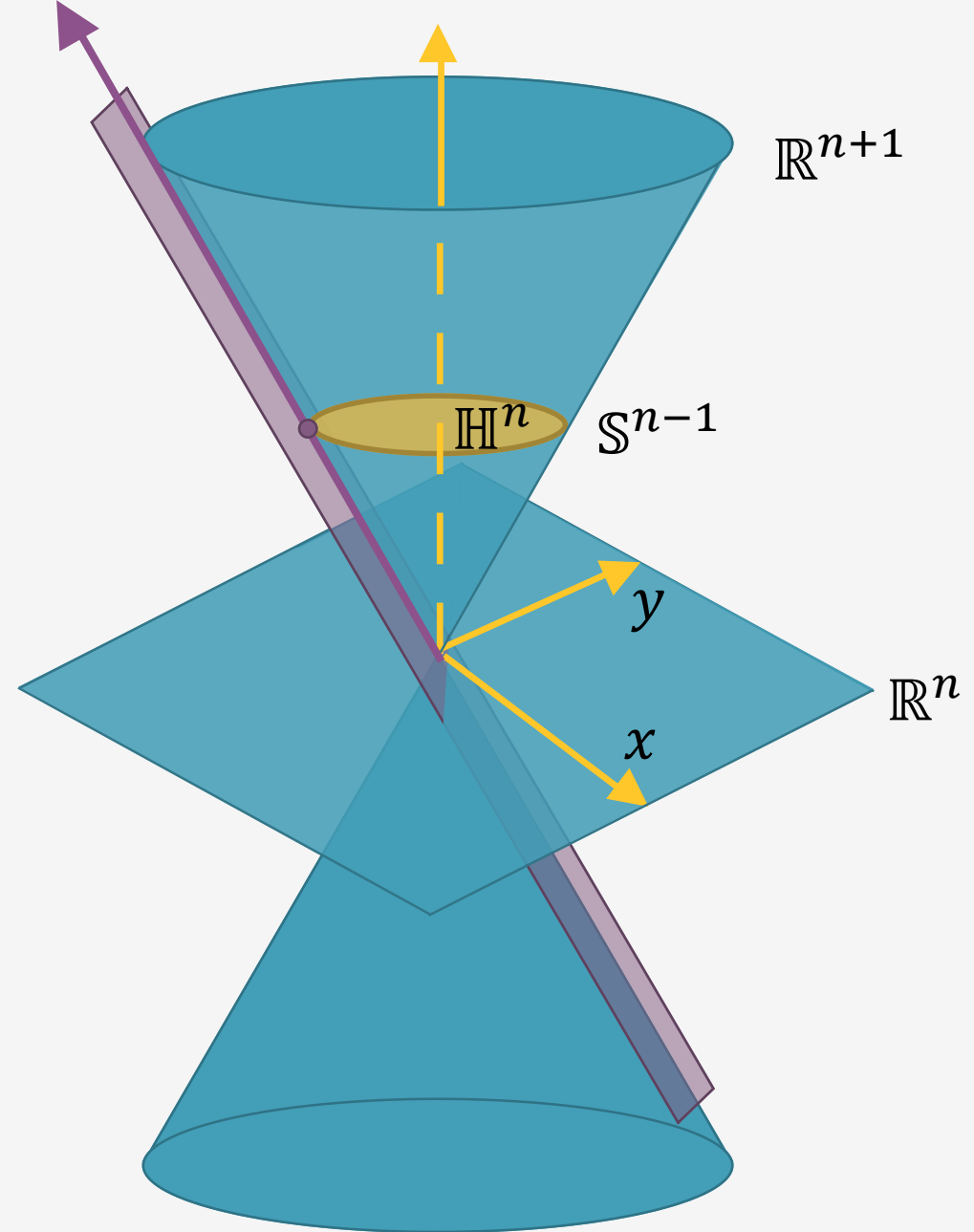


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Light-like Lorentz Subspaces  $\longleftrightarrow$

Light-like Lorentz vectors



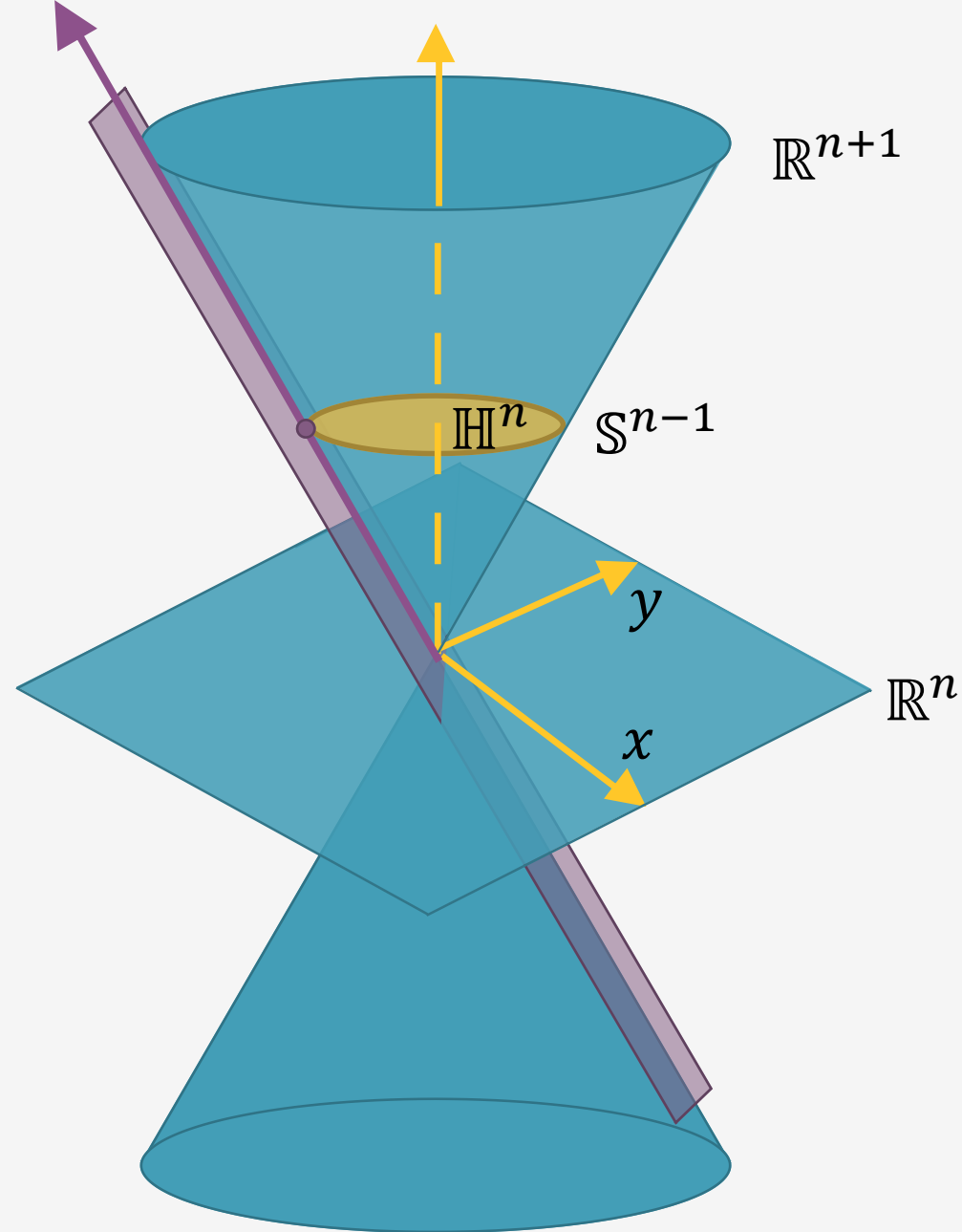
# *Lorentz Space*

Ideal points in  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1} \longleftrightarrow$

Light-like Lorentz Subspaces  $\longleftrightarrow$

Light-like Lorentz vectors

Lorentz Inner Product:  
Absolute Cross Ratio



# *Linearly Independent Lorentz Vectors*

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- **Definition.** A collection of  $(n - 2)$ -spheres in  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1} \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$  is ***independent*** if their corresponding Lorentz vectors are linearly independent.

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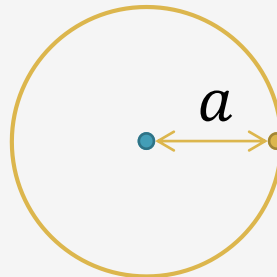
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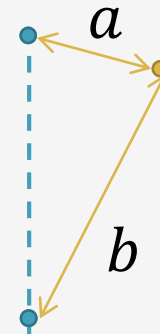
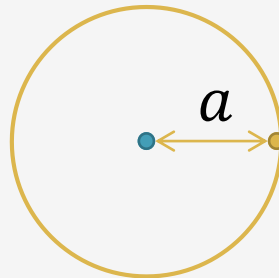
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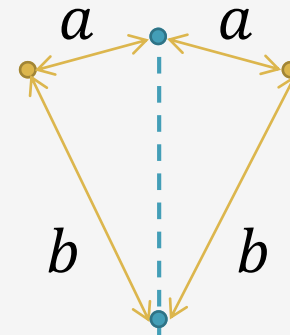
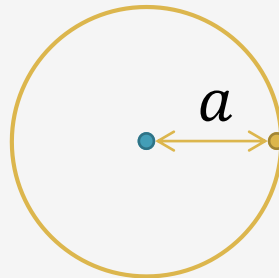
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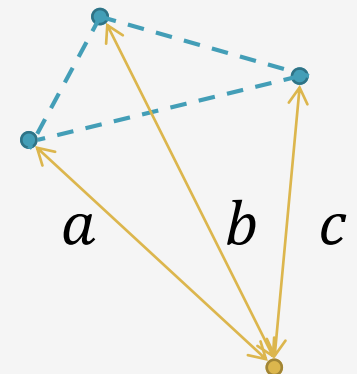
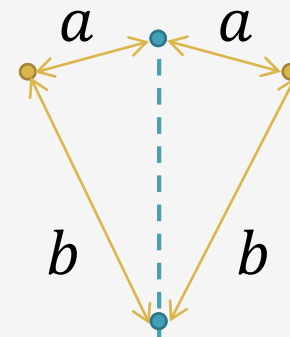
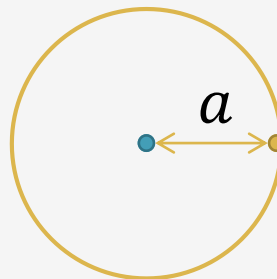
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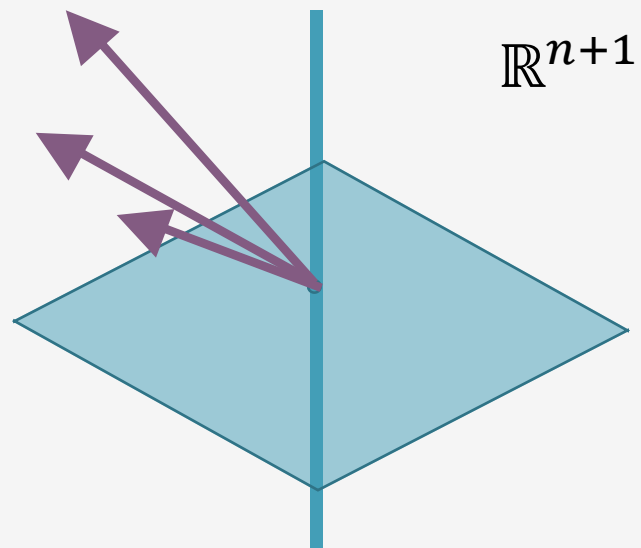


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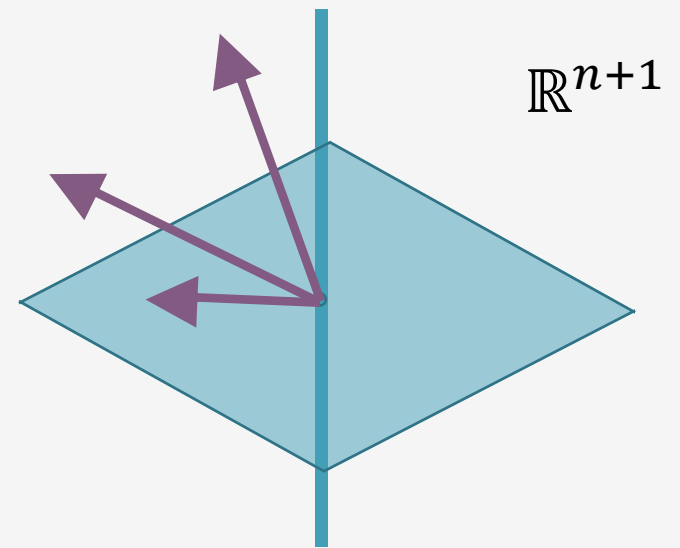
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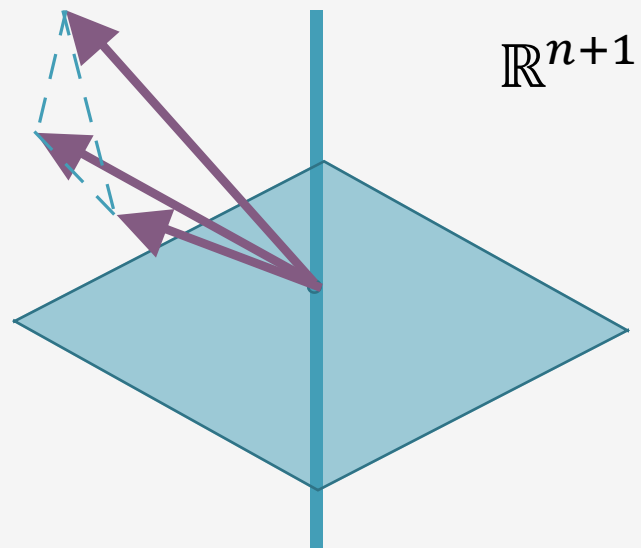




# *New Rigidity Statement*

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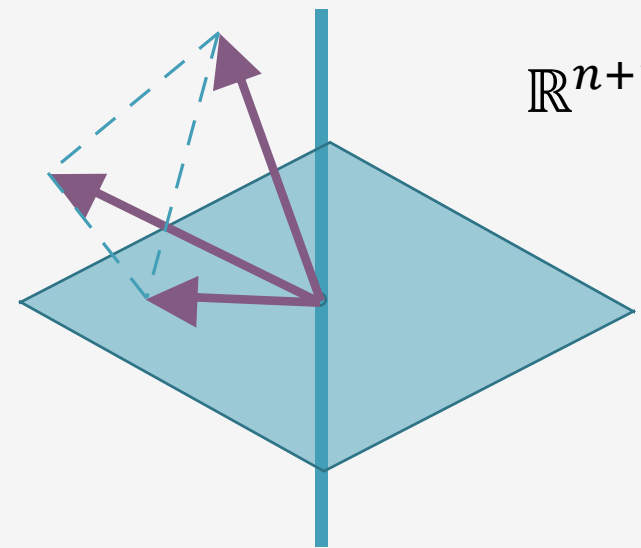




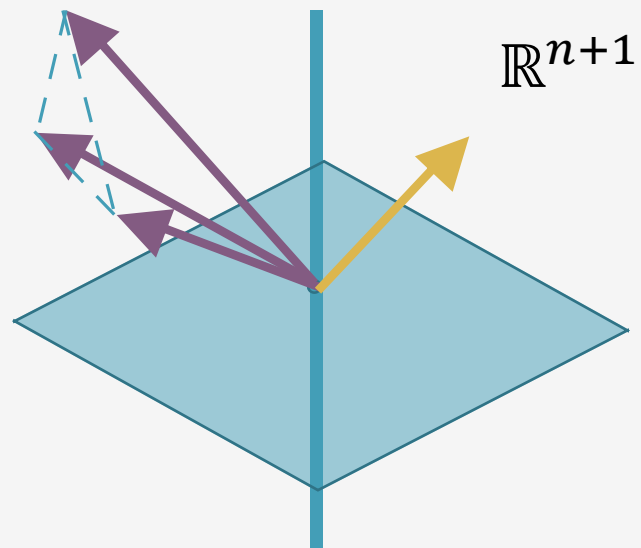
$\mathbb{R}^{n+1}$

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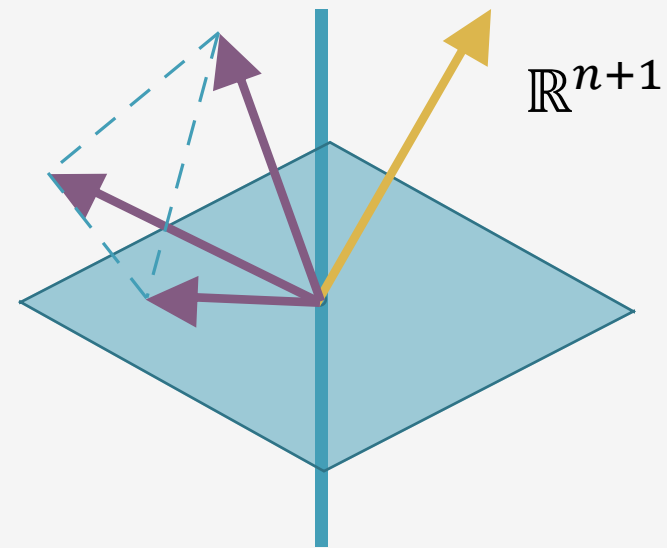


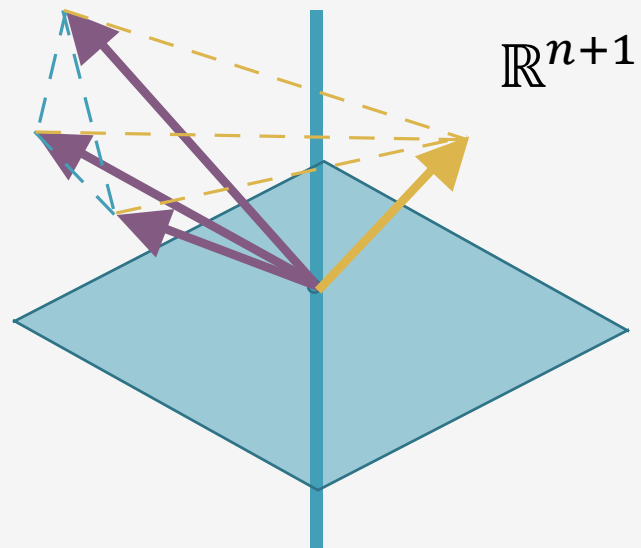
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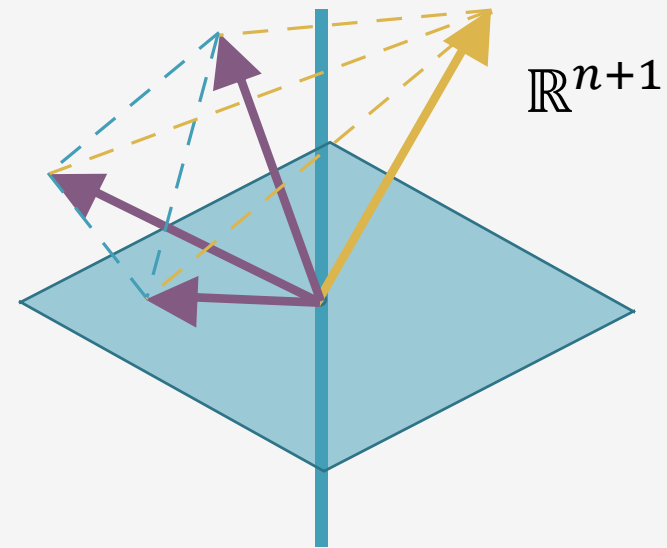
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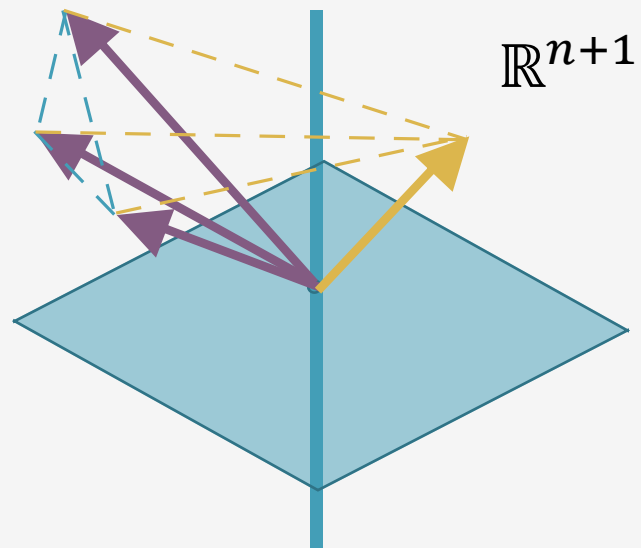
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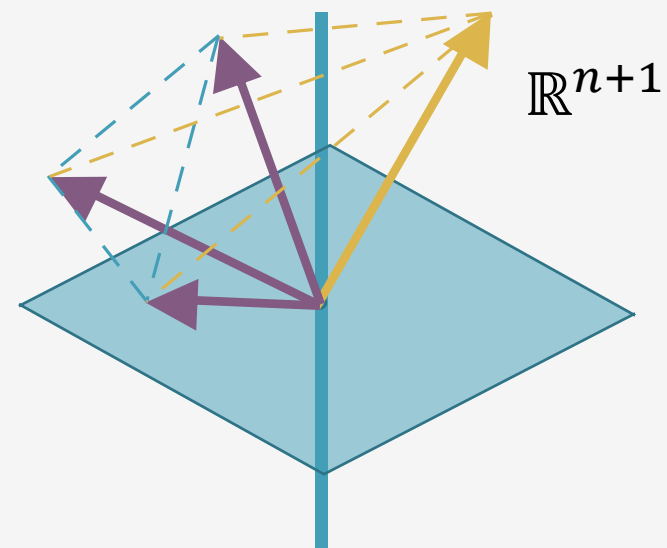


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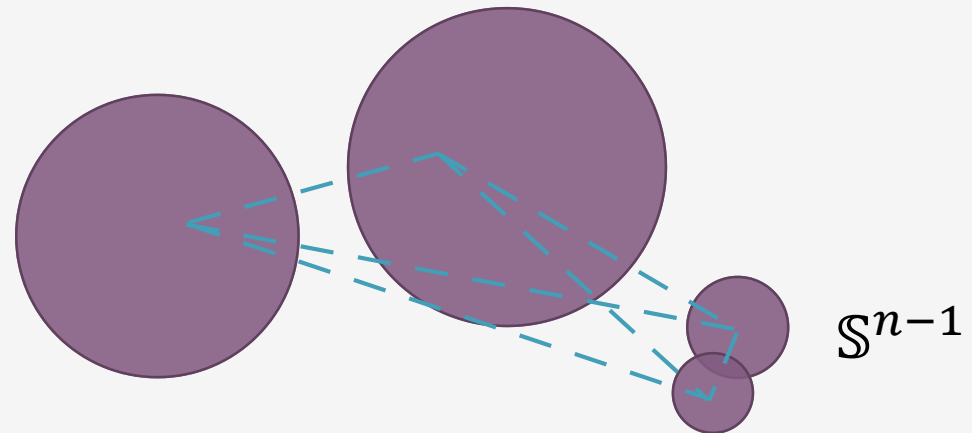
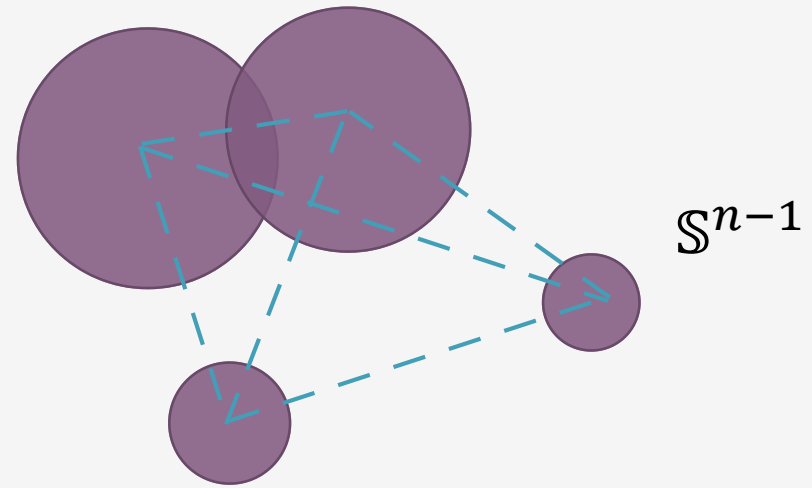


$\exists f \in SO^+(n, 1)$



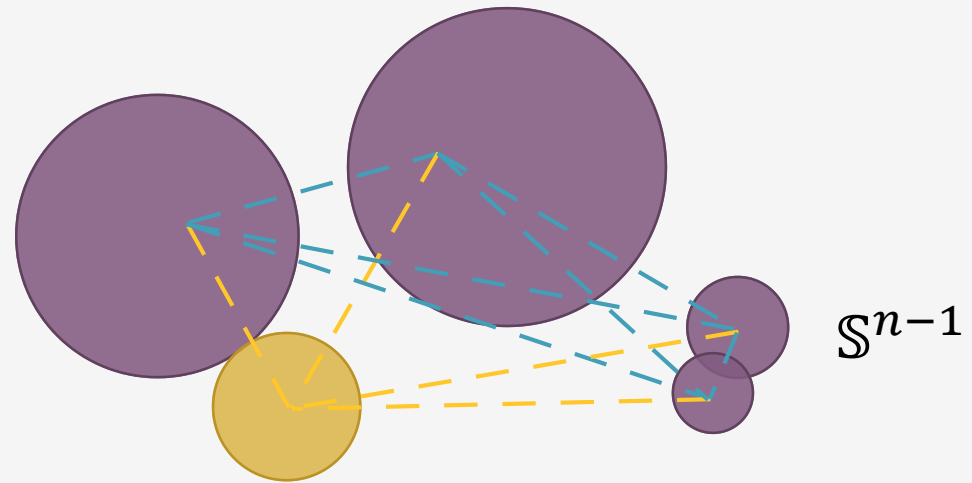
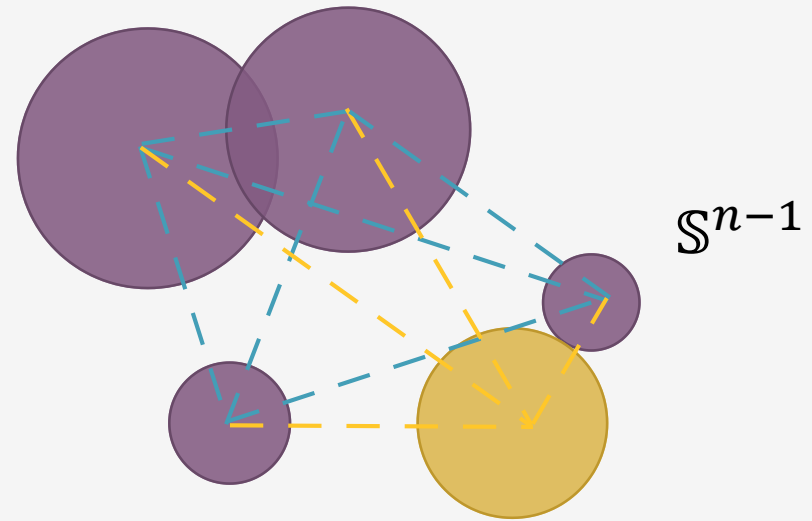
# *New Rigidity Statement – Spheres*

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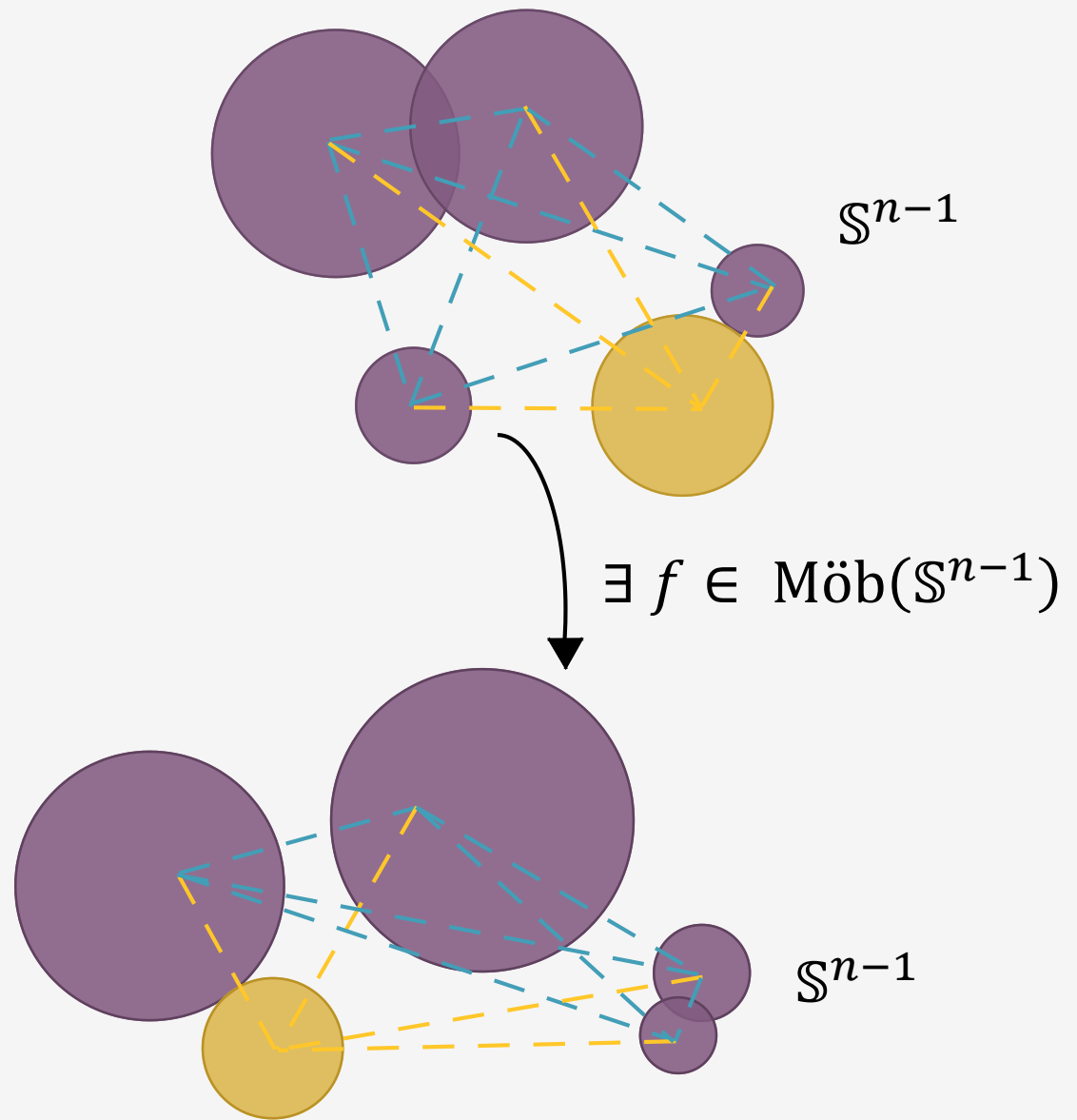
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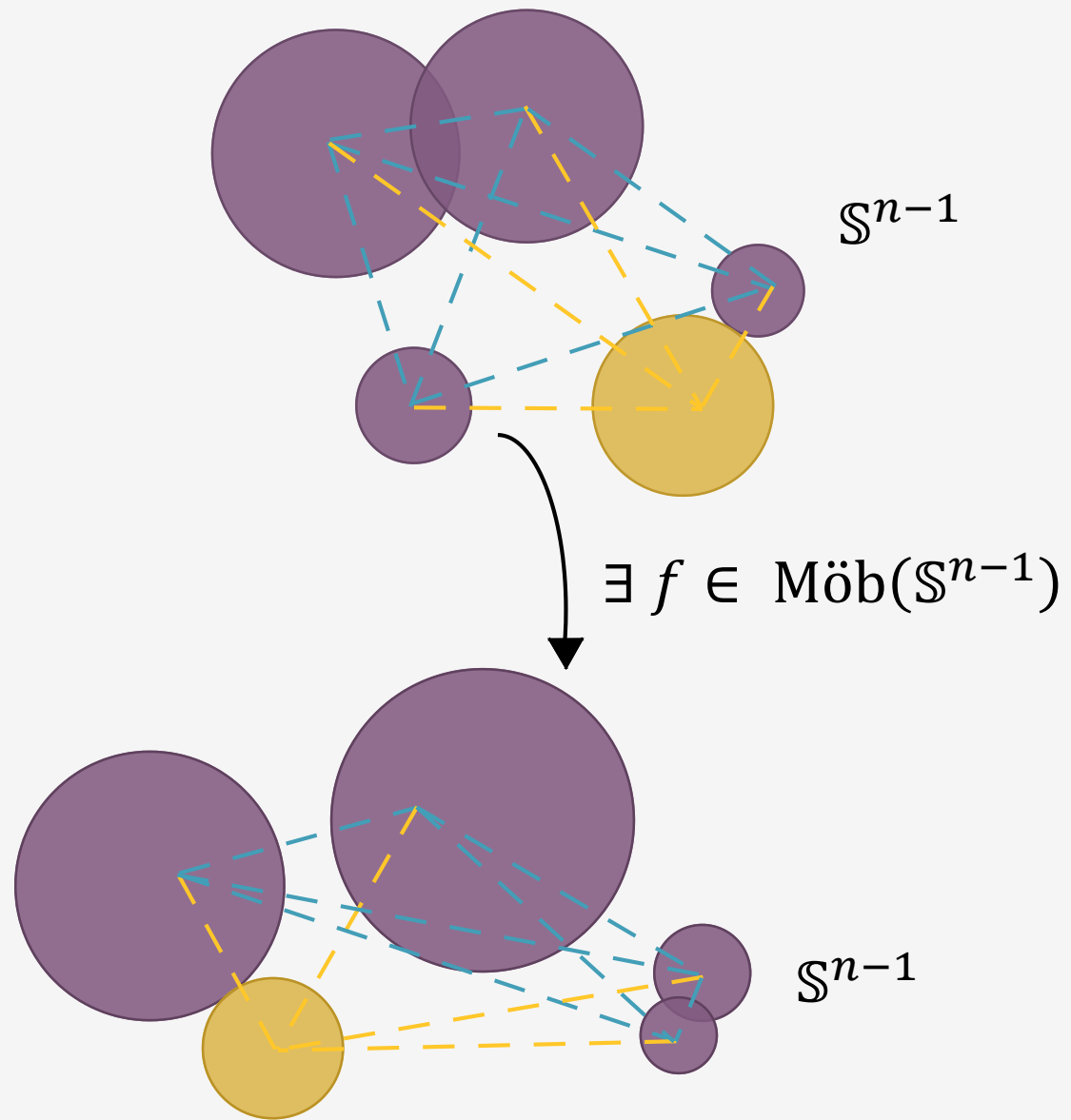
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Requires *less* inversive  
distance information

# *New Rigidity Statement – Spheres*

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- 
- **Ideal Points:** Only need  $|p_1, p_2, p_3, p_\alpha| = |p'_1, p'_2, p'_3, p'_\alpha|$  for chosen  $p_1, p_2, p_3$  in independent subcollection.

## *New Rigidity Statement— Points*

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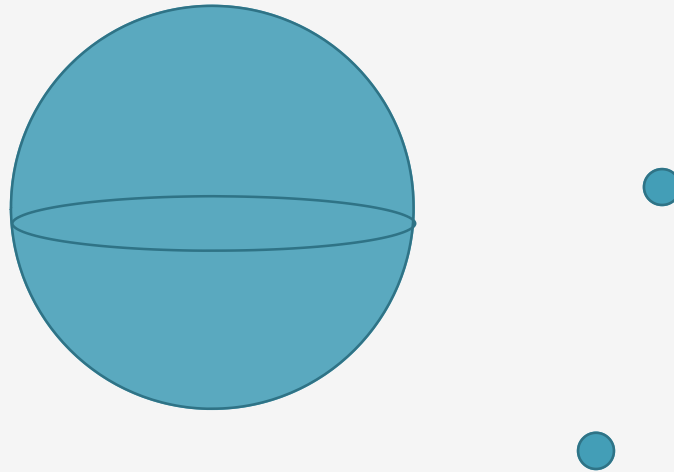
*New Rigidity  
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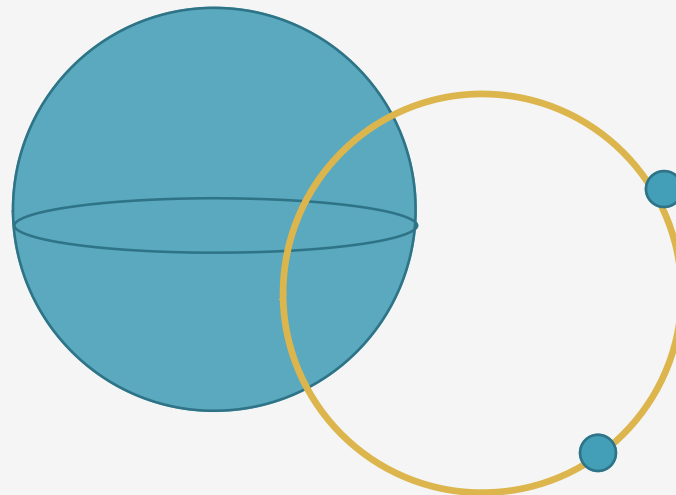
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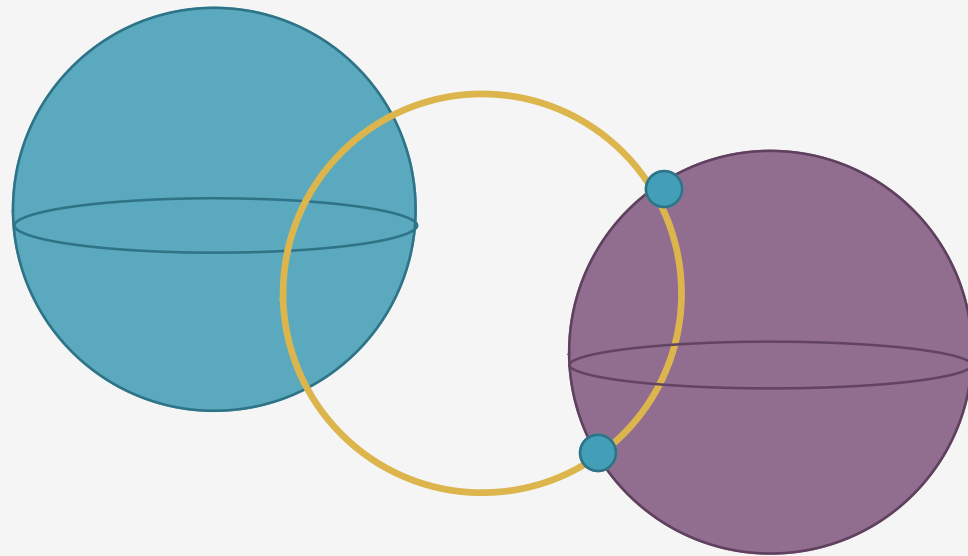
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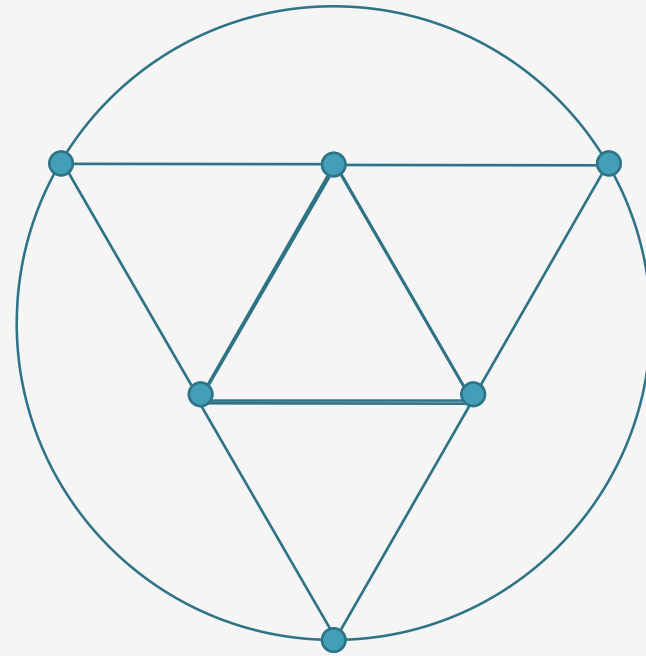
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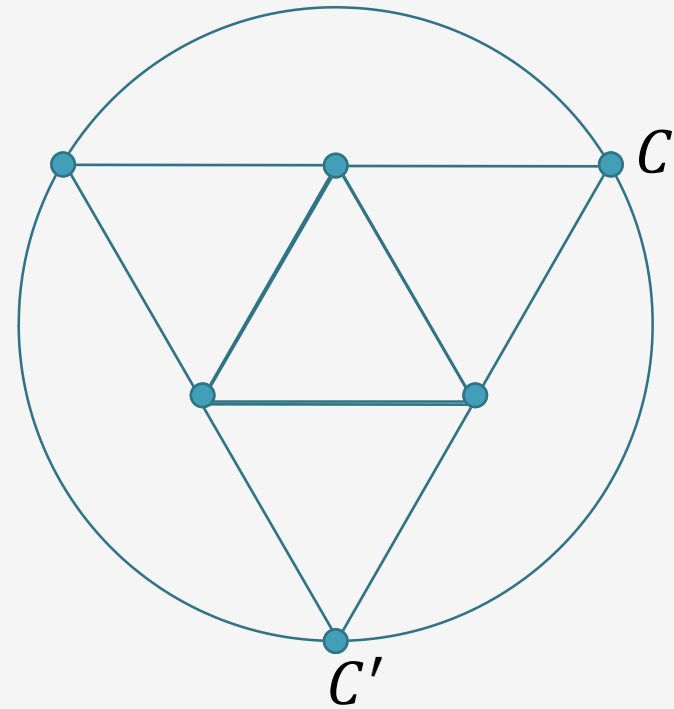
*Inversive  
Distance  
Circle  
Packings*

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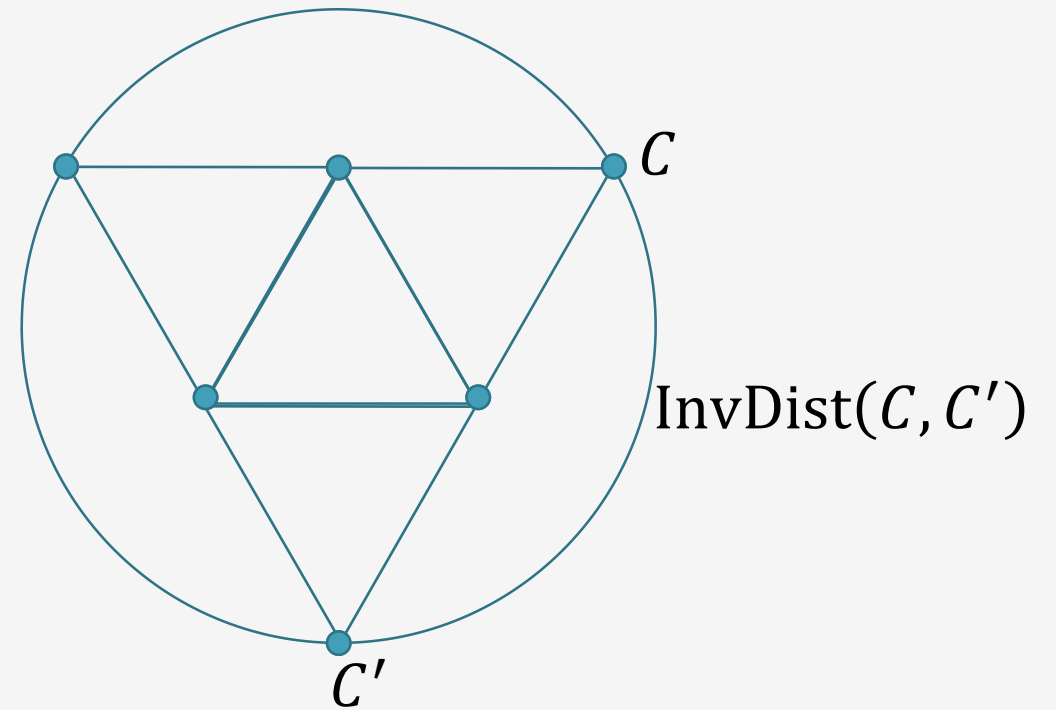
# *Inversive Distance Circle Packings*

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# *Inversive Distance Circle Packings*

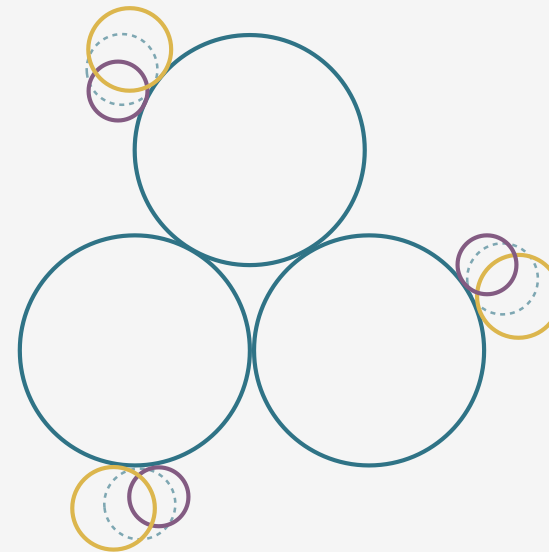
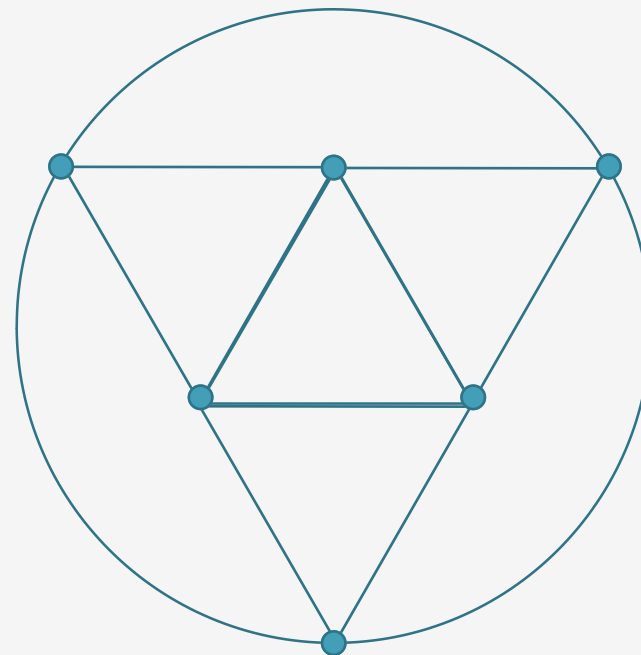
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# *Inversive Distance Circle Packings*

Ma-Schlenker C-Octahedra in  
the 2-Sphere  
(Bowers & Bowers 2018)

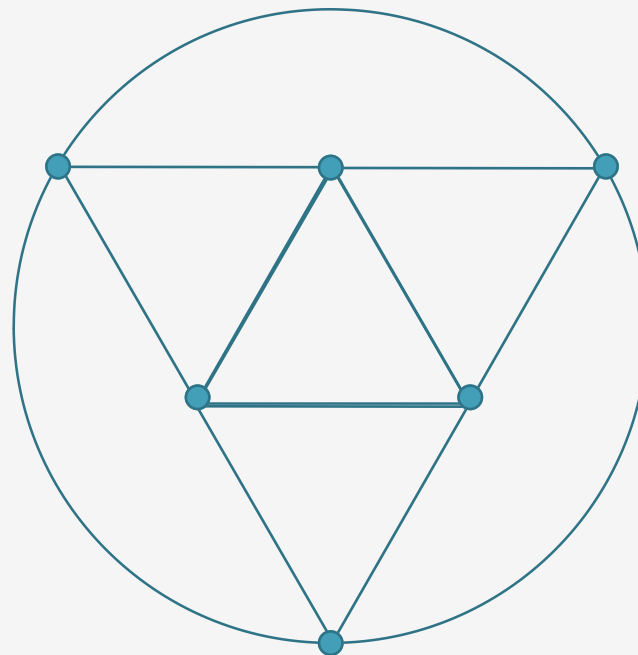
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# *Inversive Distance Circle Packings*

Ma-Schlenker C-Octahedra in  
the 2-Sphere  
(Bowers & Bowers 2018)

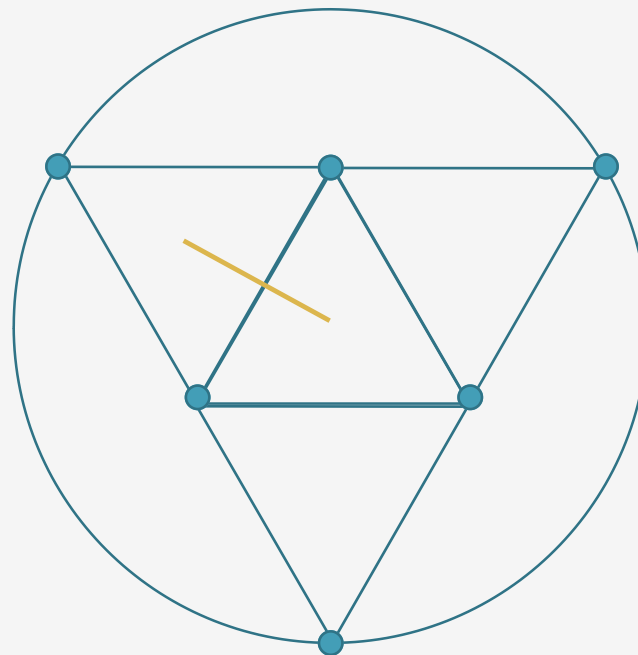
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# *Inversive Distance Circle Packings*

Ma-Schlenker C-Octahedra in  
the 2-Sphere  
(Bowers & Bowers 2018)

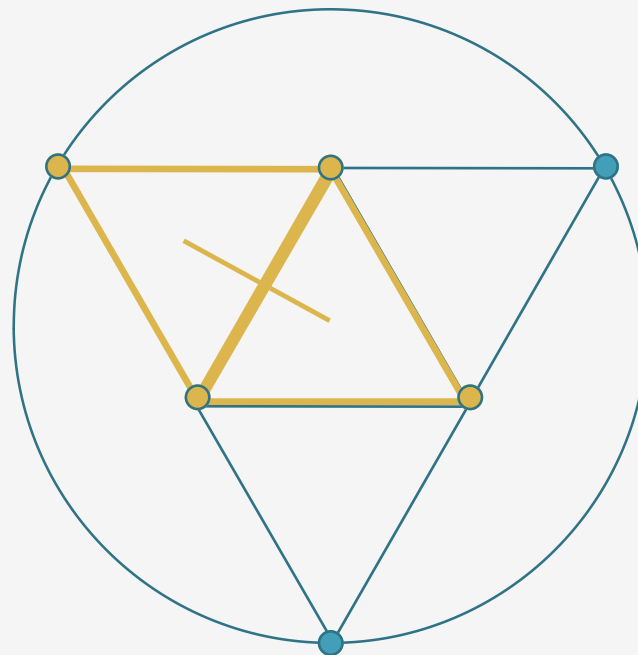
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# *Inversive Distance Circle Packings*

Ma-Schlenker C-Octahedra in  
the 2-Sphere  
(Bowers & Bowers 2018)

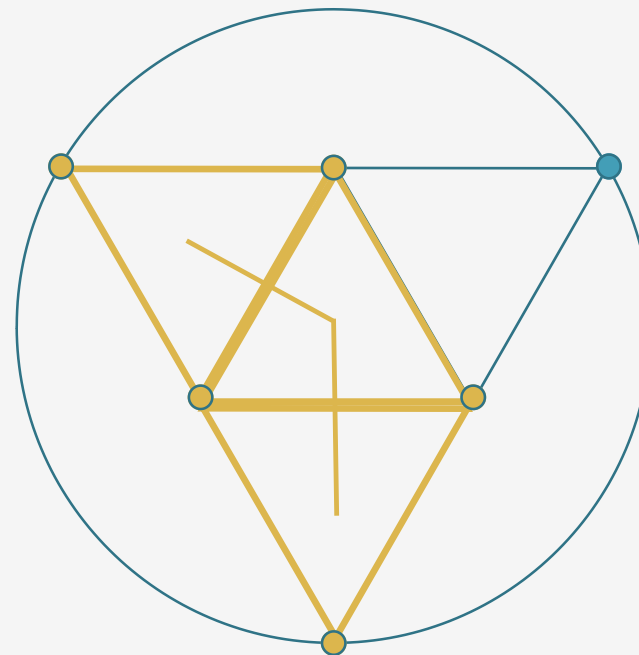
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# *Inversive Distance Circle Packings*

Ma-Schlenker C-Octahedra in  
the 2-Sphere  
(Bowers & Bowers 2018)

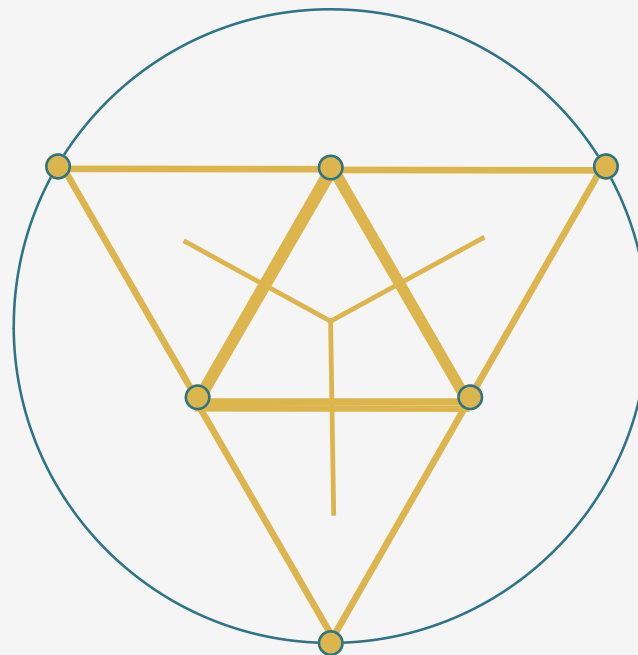
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# *Inversive Distance Circle Packings*

Ma-Schlenker C-Octahedra in  
the 2-Sphere  
(Bowers & Bowers 2018)

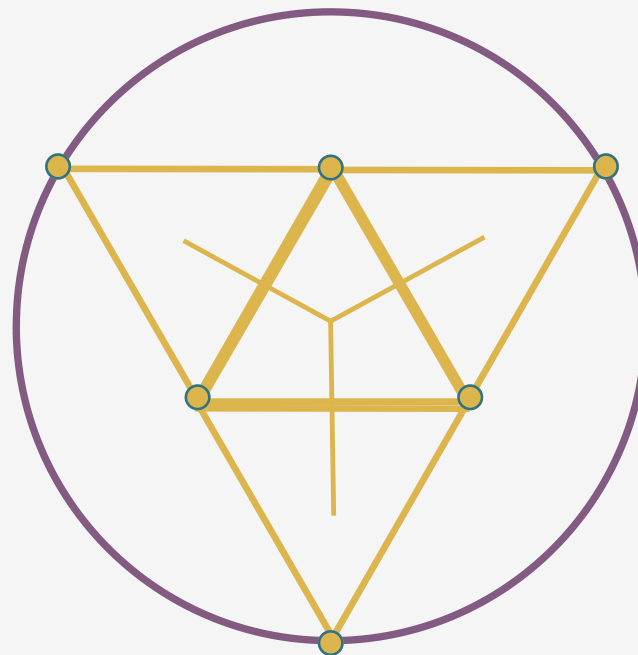
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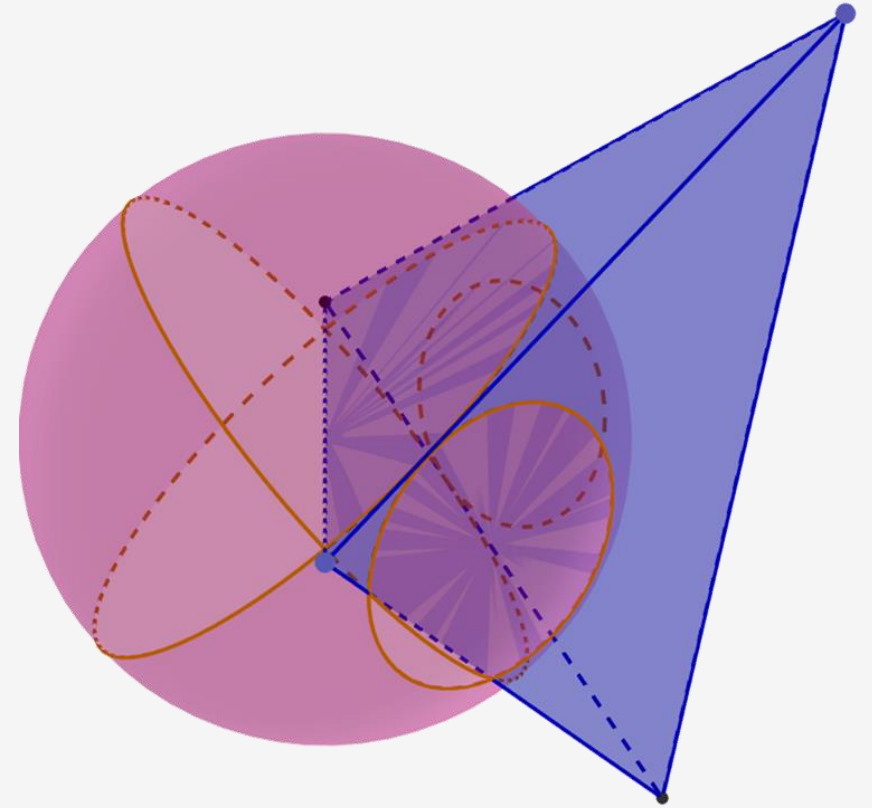
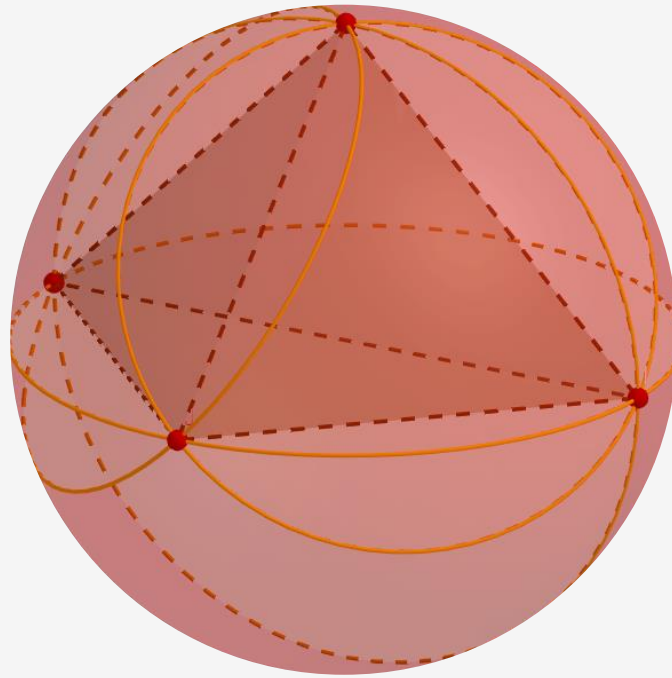
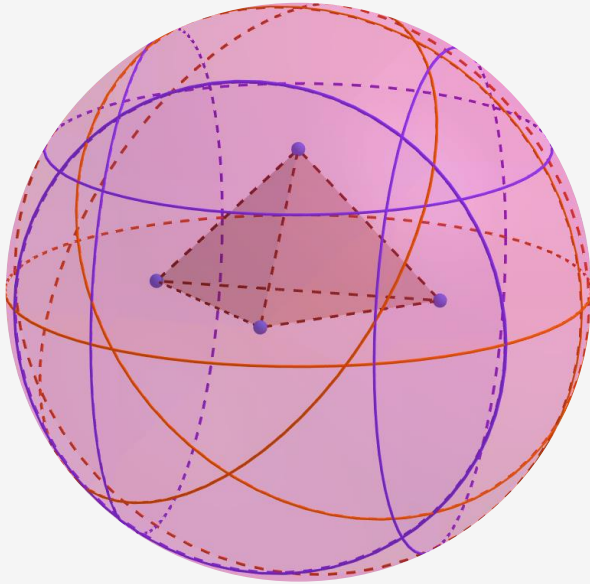
# *Inversive Distance Circle Packings*

Ma-Schlenker C-Octahedra in  
the 2-Sphere  
(Bowers & Bowers 2018)

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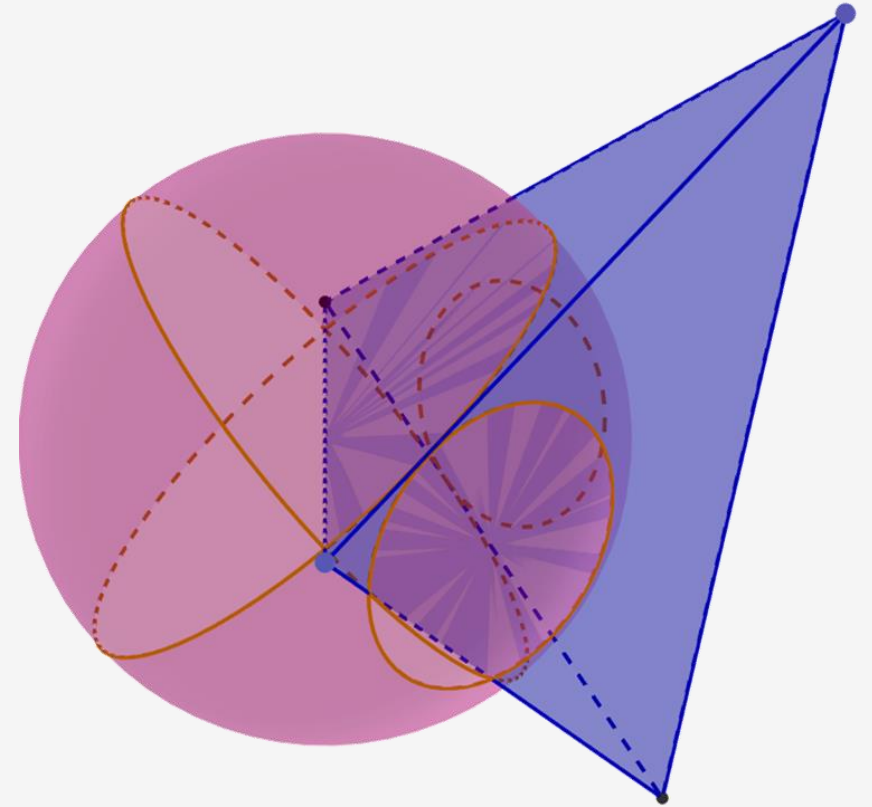
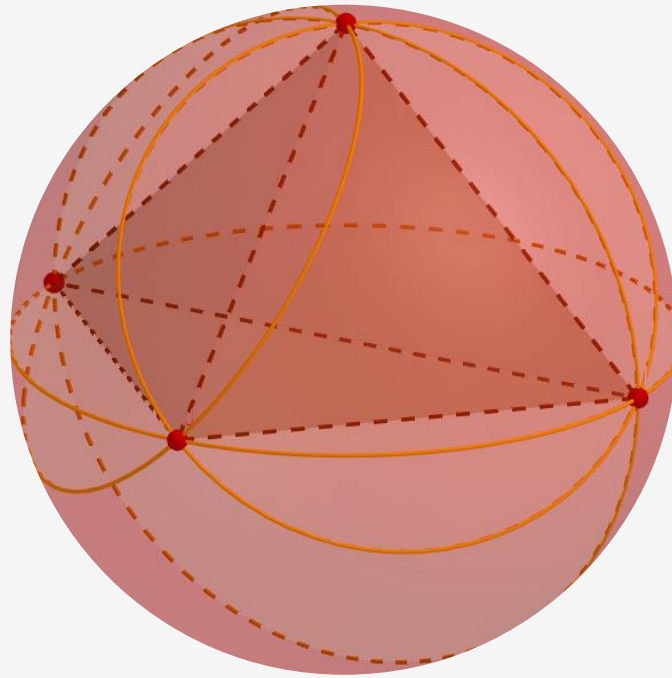
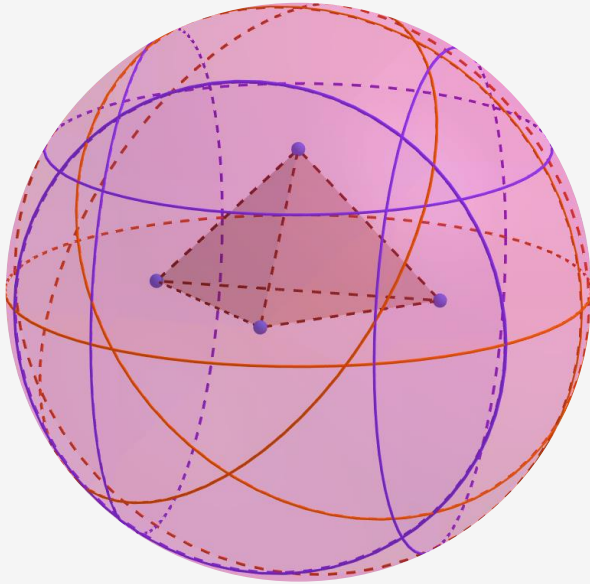


# *Projective Polyhedra*



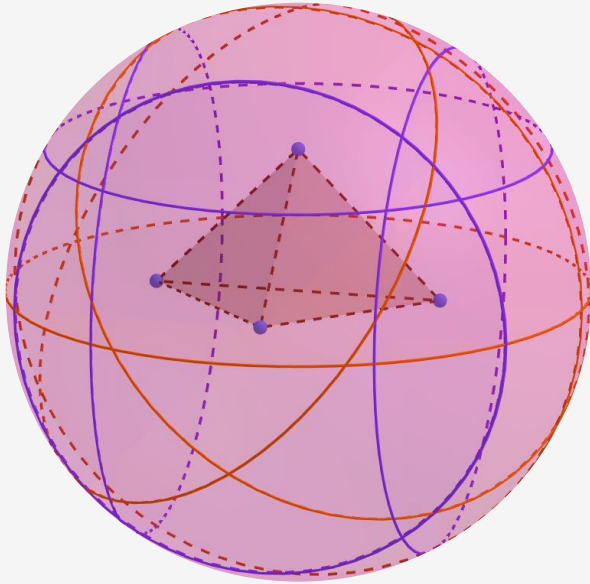
# *Projective Polyhedra*

Andre'ev ('70);  
Rivin & Hodgson ('93)

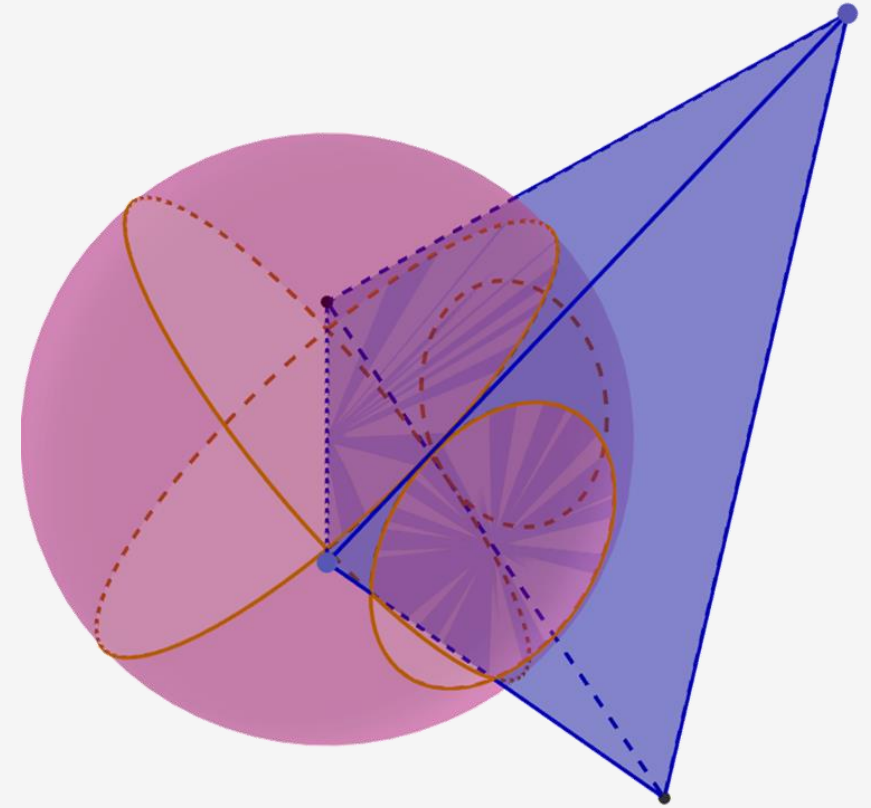
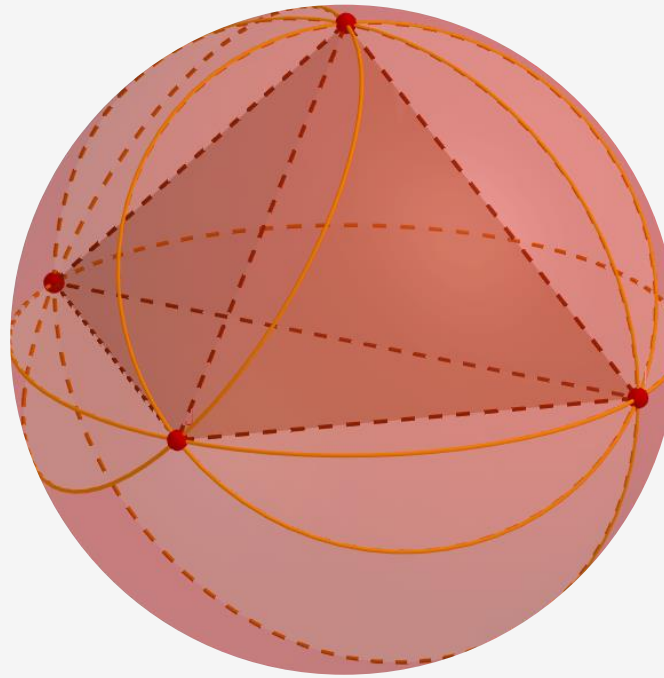


# *Projective Polyhedra*

Andre'ev ('70);  
Rivin & Hodgson ('93)

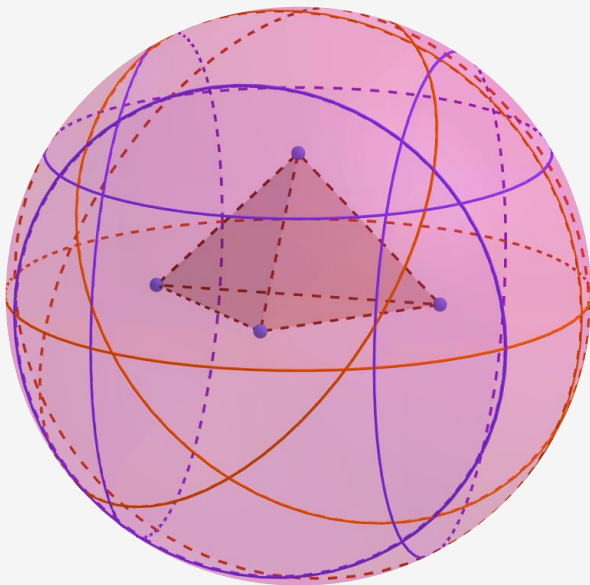


Rivin ('96)

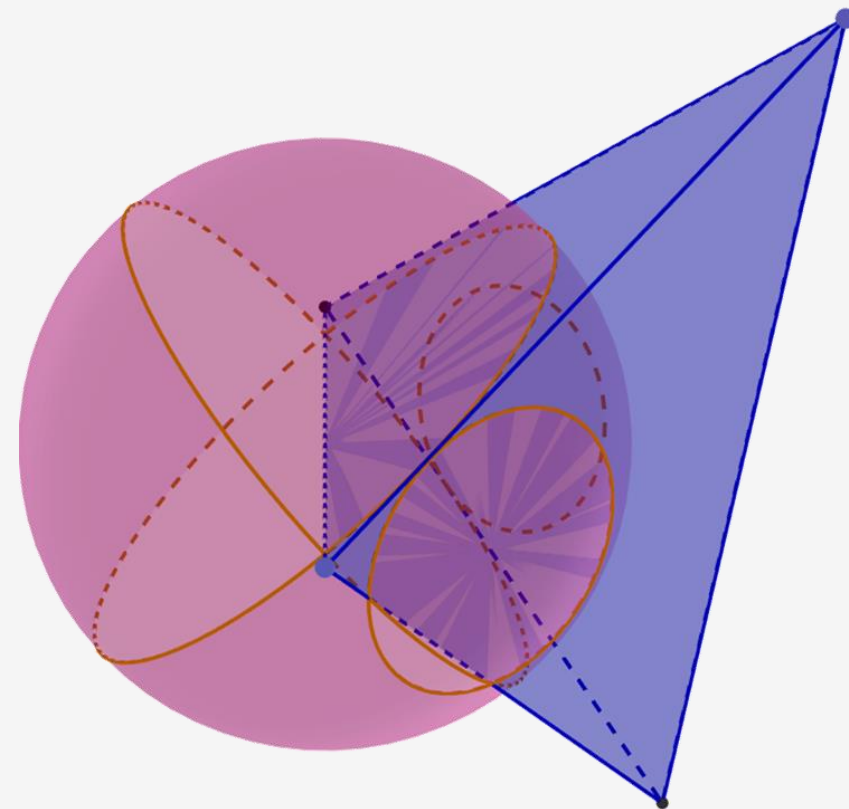
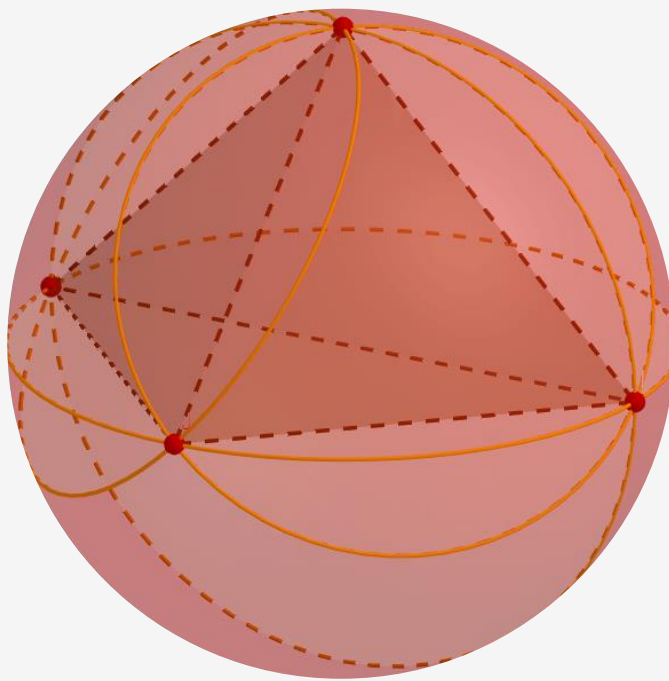


# *Projective Polyhedra*

Andre'ev ('70);  
Rivin & Hodgson ('93)



Rivin ('96)



Bao & Bonahon ('02);  
Bowers, Bowers, Pratt ('18)

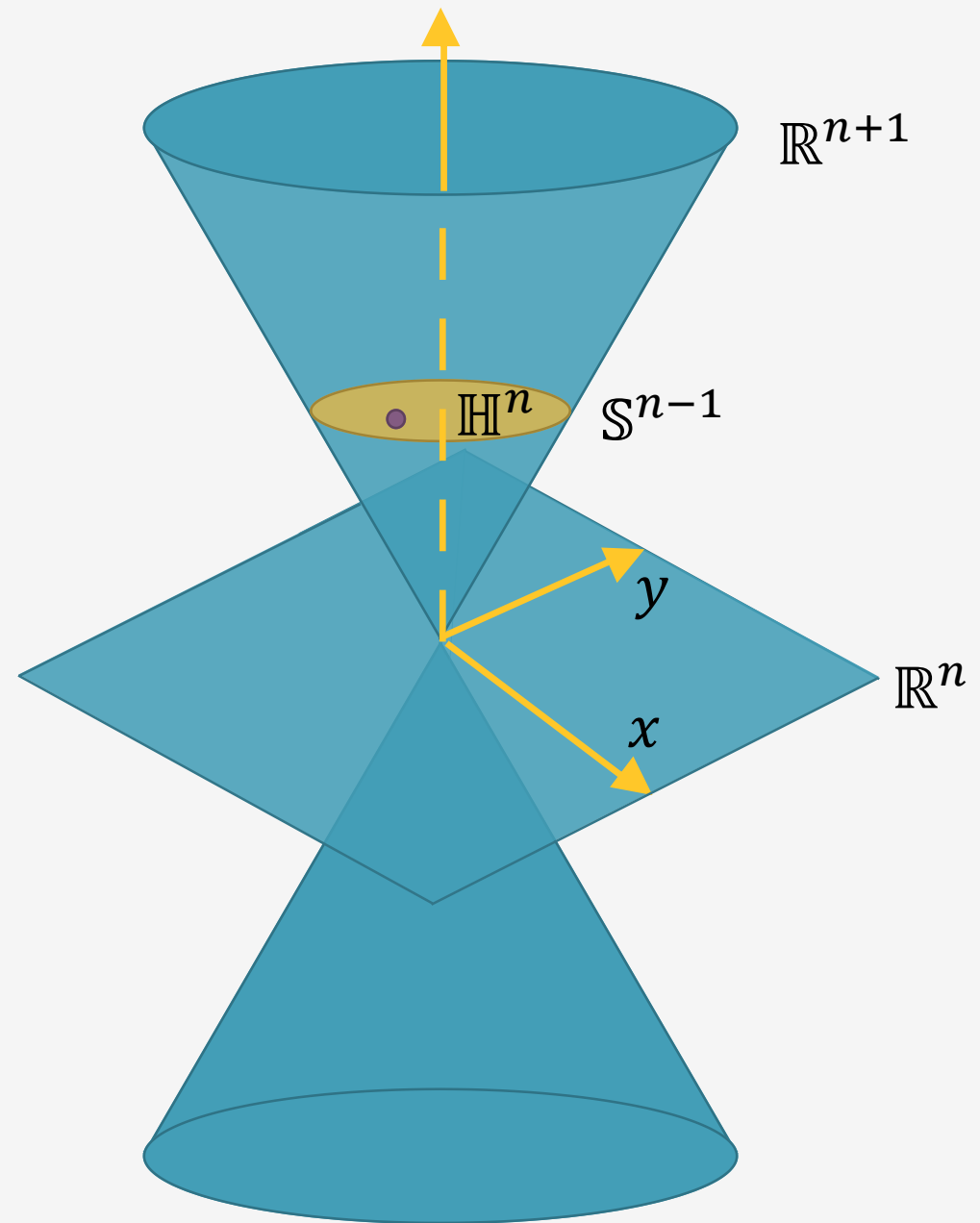


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*THANK YOU!*

# *Lorentz Space*

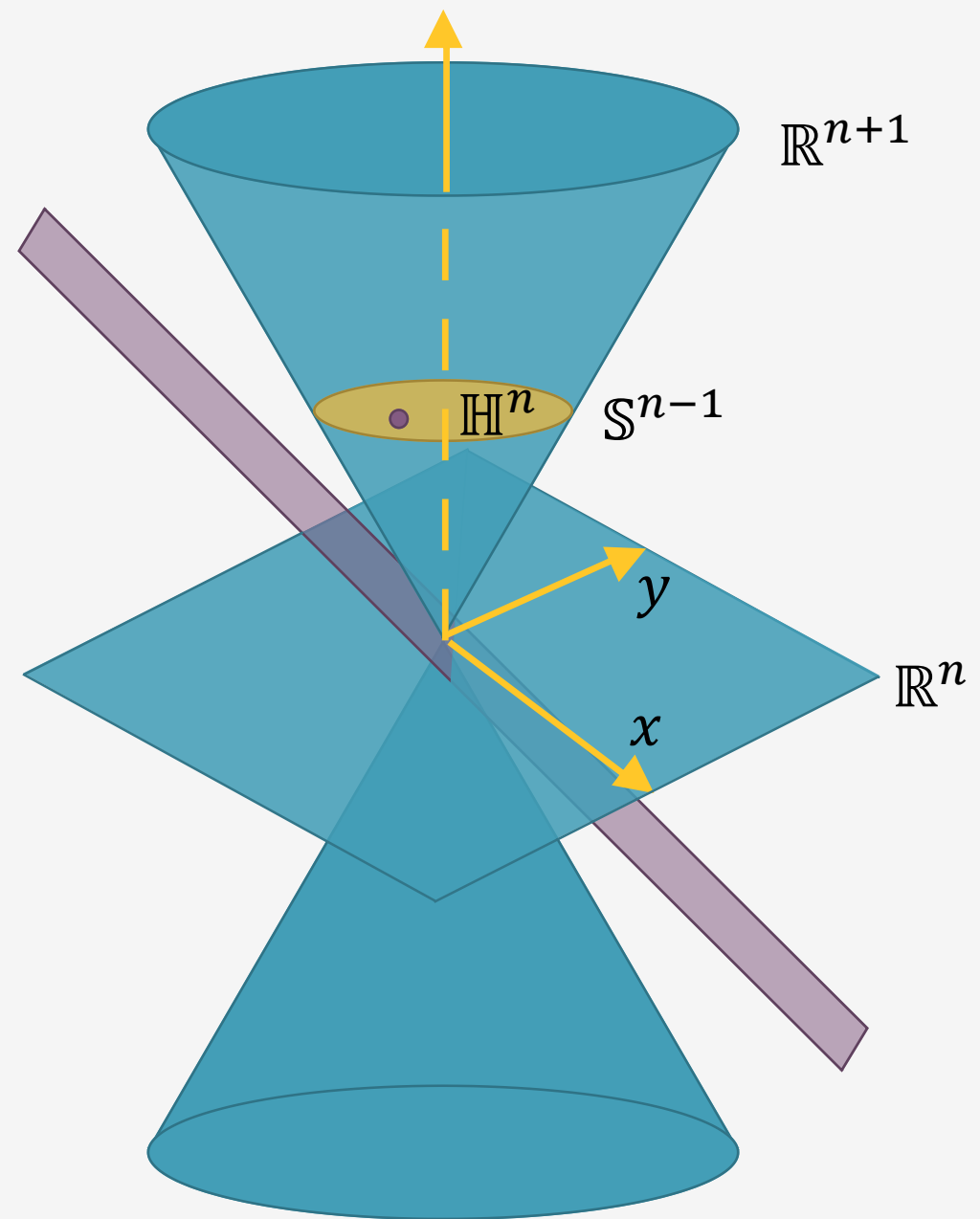
Hyperbolic Points in  $\mathbb{H}^n$



# *Lorentz Space*

Hyperbolic Points in  $\mathbb{H}^n \longleftrightarrow$

Space-like Lorentz subspaces

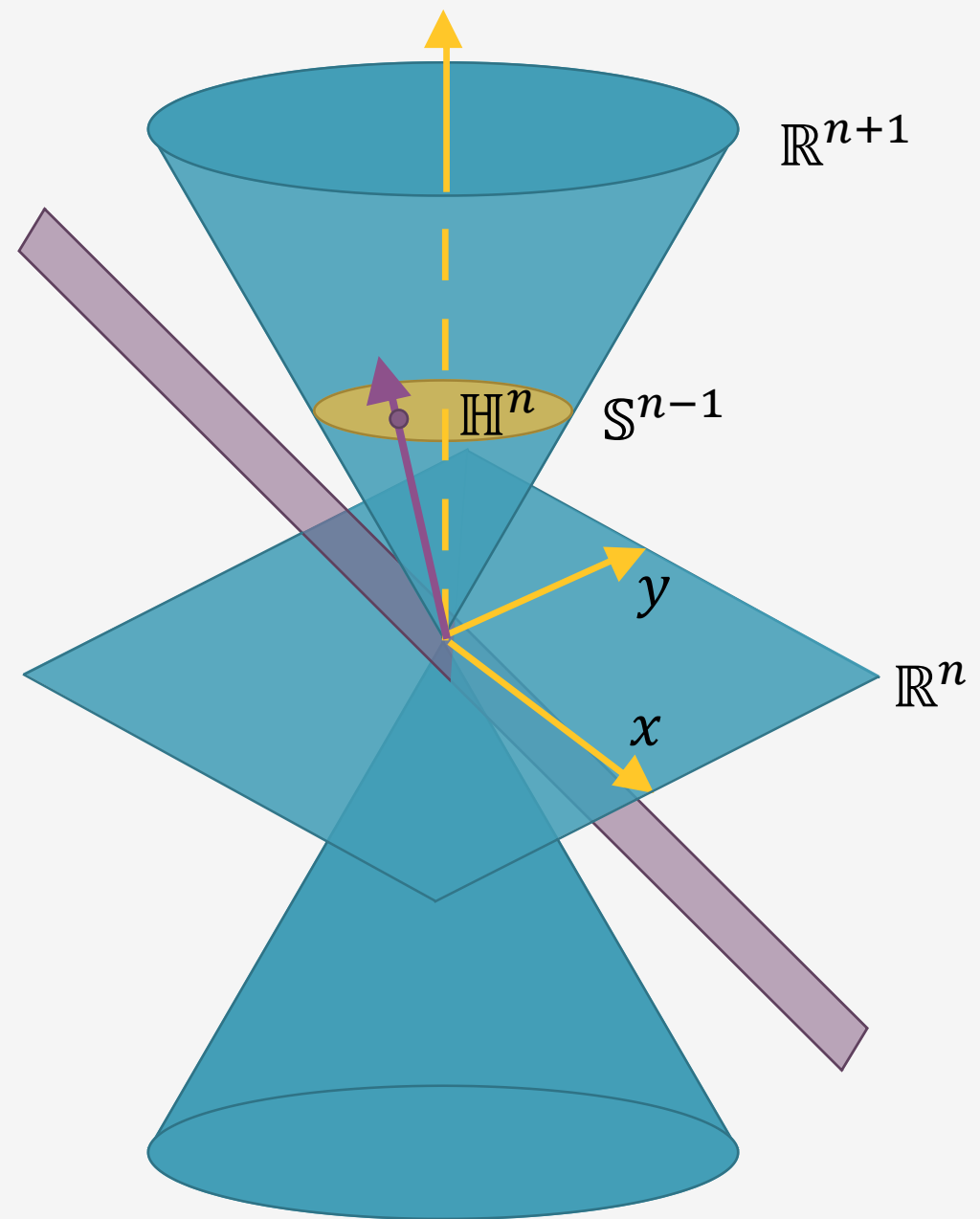


# *Lorentz Space*

Hyperbolic Points in  $\mathbb{H}^n \longleftrightarrow$

Space-like Lorentz subspaces  $\longleftrightarrow$

Time-Like Lorentz unit  
vectors



# *Lorentz Space*

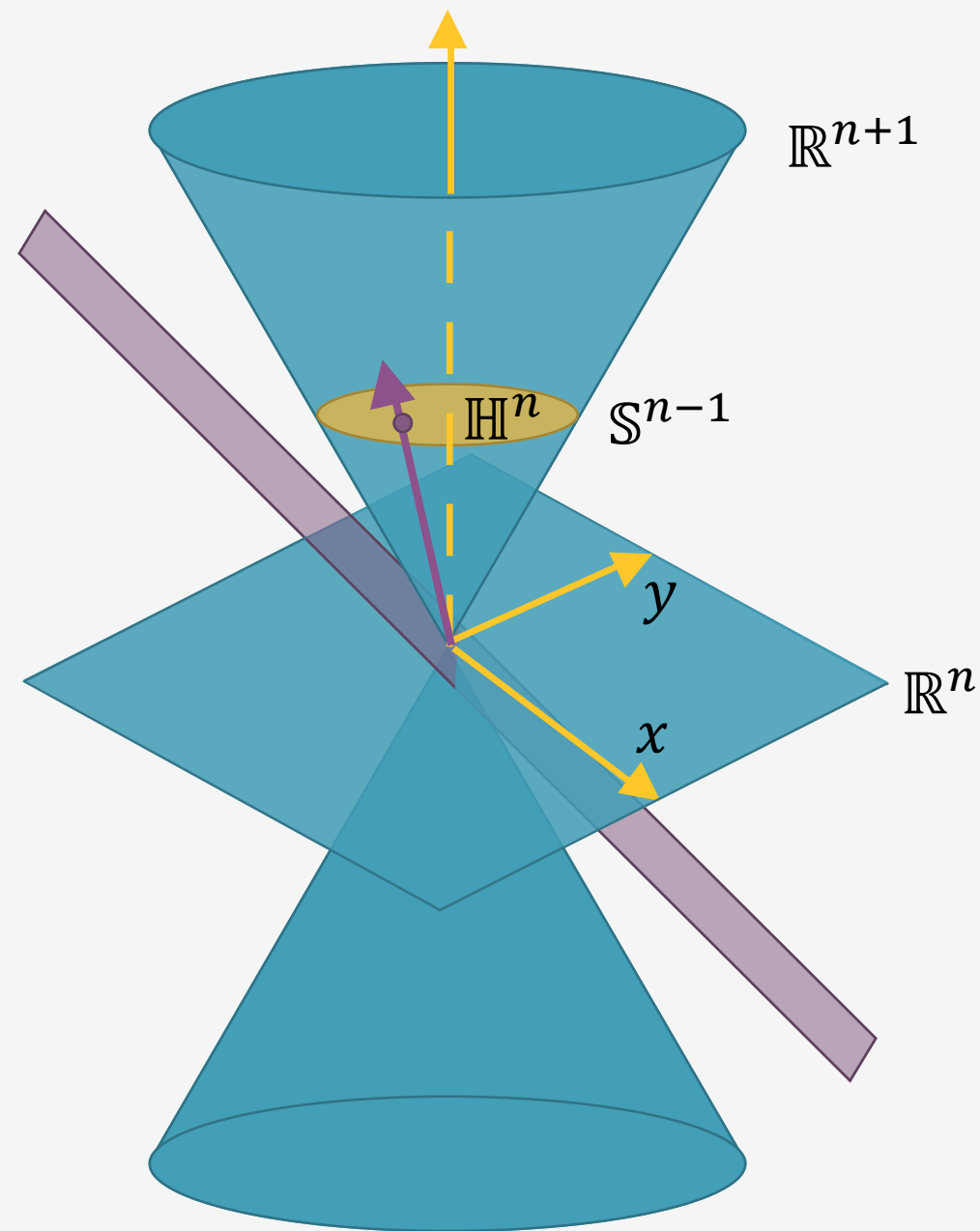
Hyperbolic Points in  $\mathbb{H}^n \longleftrightarrow$

Space-like Lorentz subspaces  $\longleftrightarrow$

Time-Like Lorentz unit  
vectors

**Fact:** Lorentz inner product  
corresponds to hyperbolic  
distance

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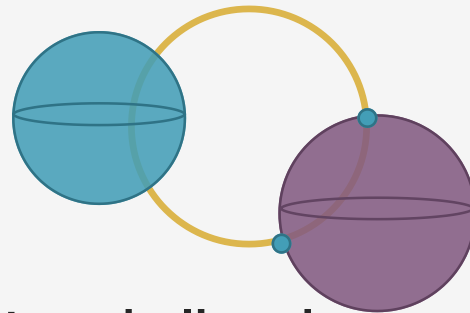


# *New Rigidity Statement— Points*

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- **Ideal Points:** Only need  $|p_1, p_2, p_3, p_\alpha| = |p'_1, p'_2, p'_3, p'_\alpha|$  for chosen  $p_1, p_2, p_3$  in independent subcollection.

- **Ideal points and spheres:**



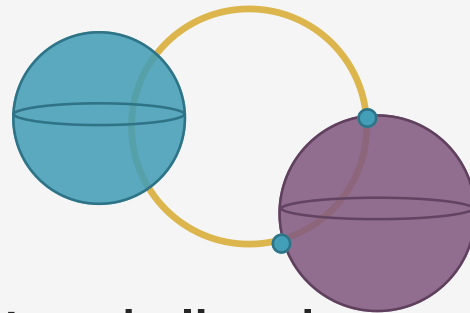
- **Hyperbolic points and hyperplanes:** Independence?

# *New Rigidity Statement— Points*

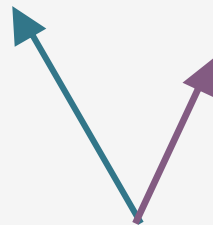
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- **Ideal points and spheres:**



- **Hyperbolic points and hyperplanes:** Independence?

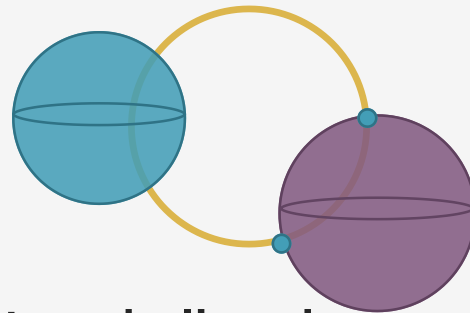


# *New Rigidity Statement— Points*

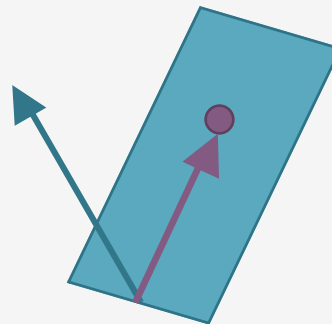
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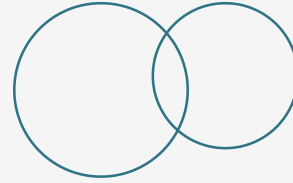
- **Ideal points and spheres:**



- **Hyperbolic points and hyperplanes:** Independence?



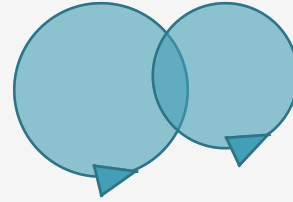
6 CASES



# *Inversive Distance Primer*

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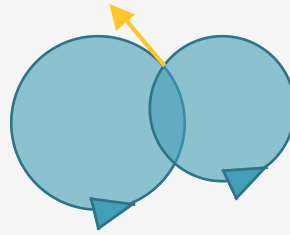
6 CASES



# *Inversive Distance Primer*

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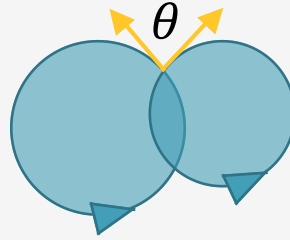
6 CASES



# *Inversive Distance Primer*

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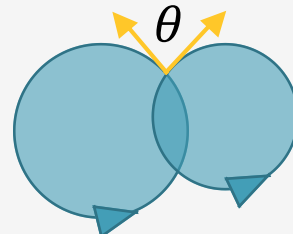
6 CASES



# *Inversive Distance Primer*

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6 CASES

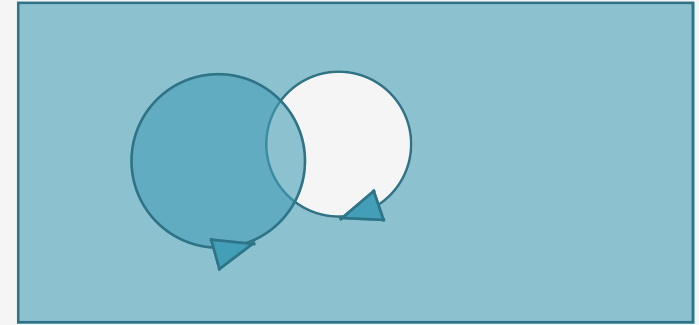
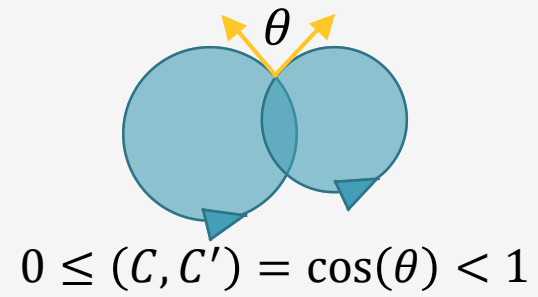


$$0 \leq (C, C') = \cos(\theta) < 1$$

*Inversive  
Distance  
Primer*

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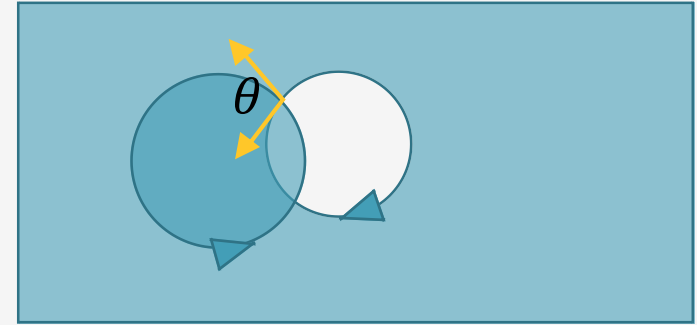
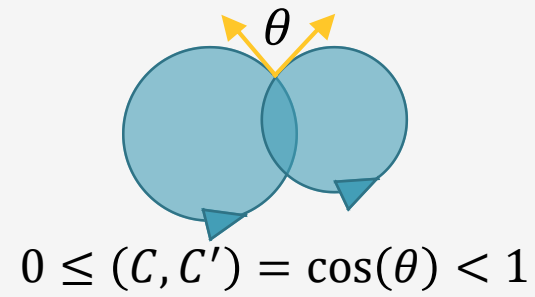
6 CASES



*Inversive  
Distance  
Primer*

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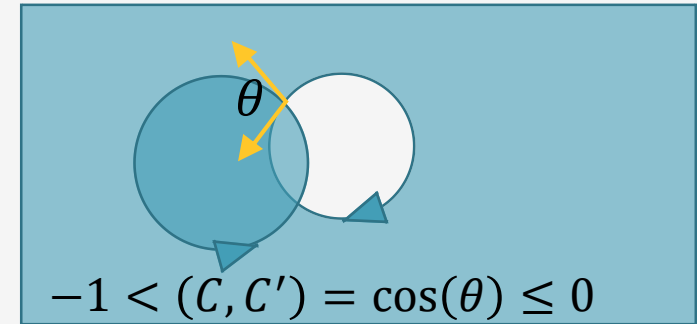
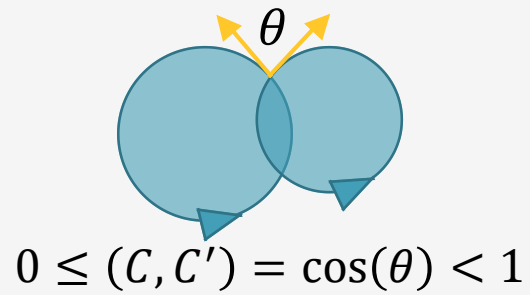
6 CASES



*Inversive  
Distance  
Primer*

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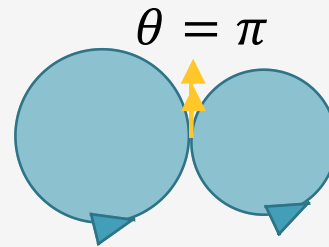
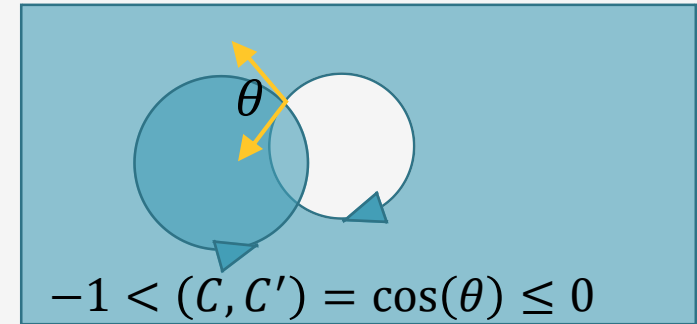
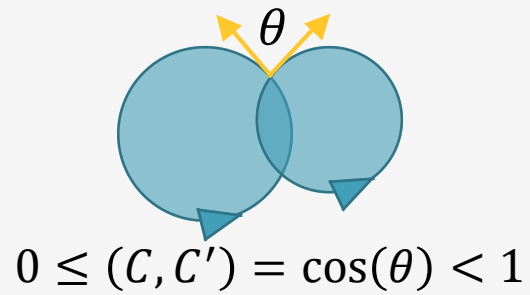
## 6 CASES



*Inversive  
Distance  
Primer*

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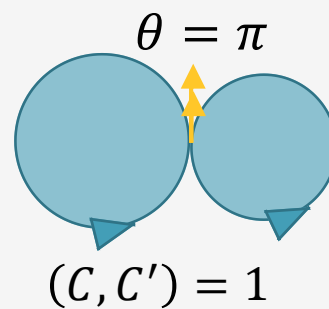
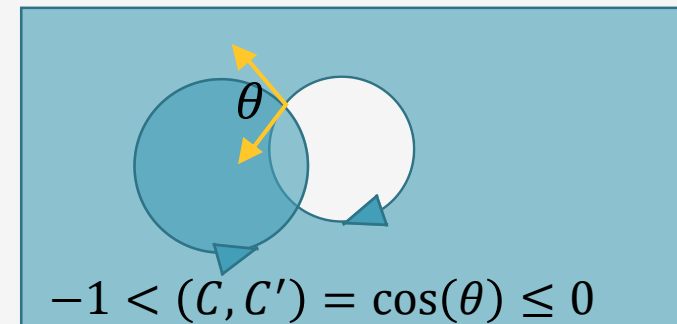
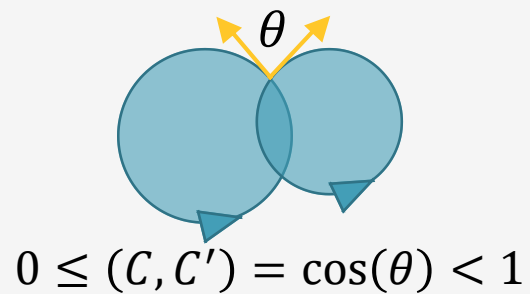
## 6 CASES



*Inversive  
Distance  
Primer*

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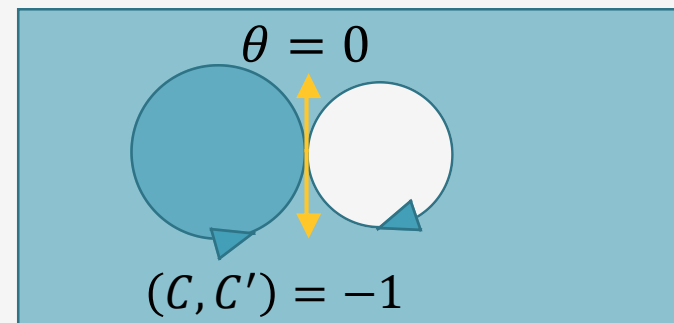
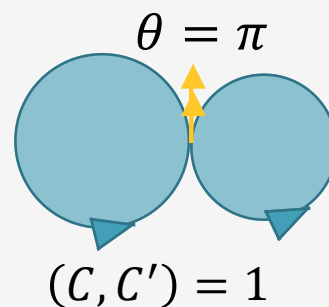
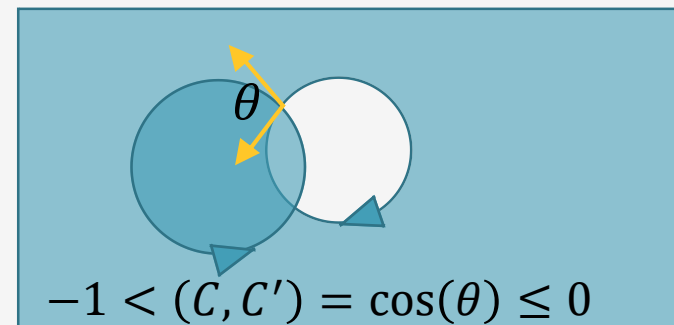
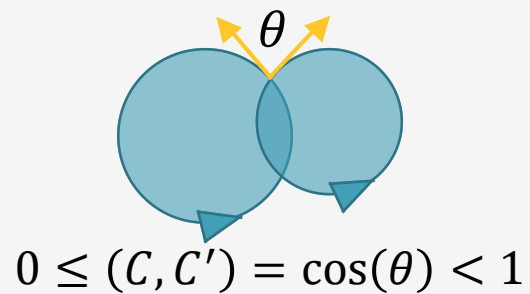
## 6 CASES



*Inversive  
Distance  
Primer*

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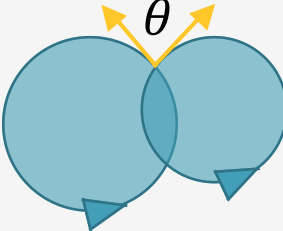
## 6 CASES



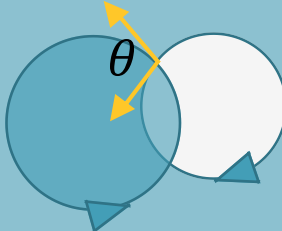
# *Inversive Distance Primer*

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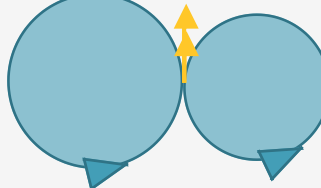
## 6 CASES



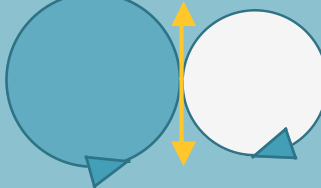
$0 \leq (C, C') = \cos(\theta) < 1$



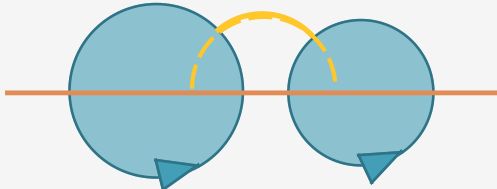
$-1 < (C, C') = \cos(\theta) \leq 0$



$\theta = \pi$   
 $(C, C') = 1$



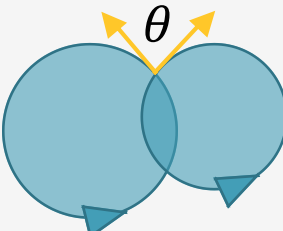
$\theta = 0$   
 $(C, C') = -1$



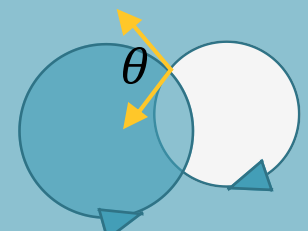
$d_H(x, y)$

*Inversive  
Distance  
Primer*

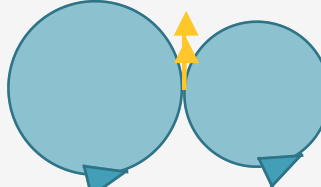
## 6 CASES



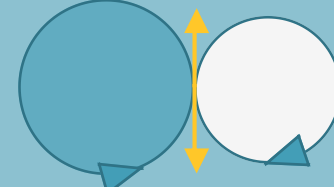
$0 \leq (C, C') = \cos(\theta) < 1$



$-1 < (C, C') = \cos(\theta) \leq 0$

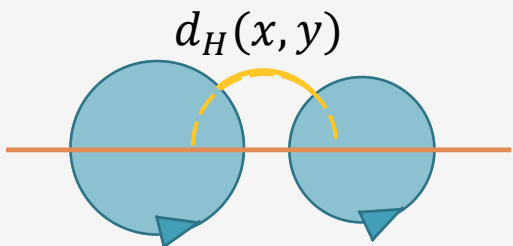


$\theta = \pi$   
 $(C, C') = 1$



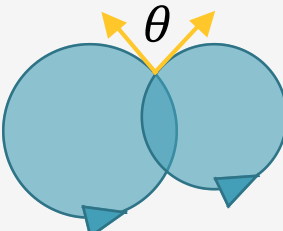
$\theta = 0$   
 $(C, C') = -1$

# *Inversive Distance Primer*

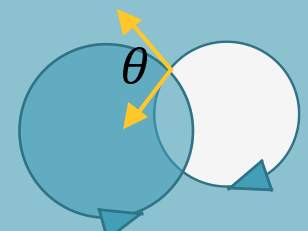


$d_H(x, y)$   
 $1 < (C, C') = \cos(id_H(x, y)) < \infty$

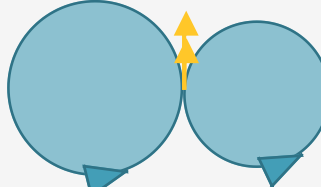
## 6 CASES



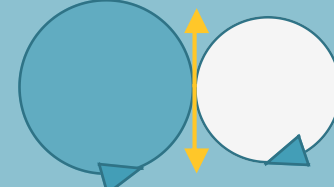
$0 \leq (C, C') = \cos(\theta) < 1$



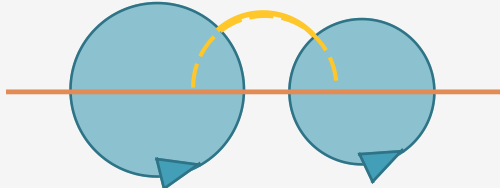
$-1 < (C, C') = \cos(\theta) \leq 0$



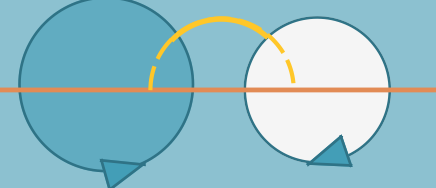
$\theta = \pi$   
 $(C, C') = 1$



$\theta = 0$   
 $(C, C') = -1$



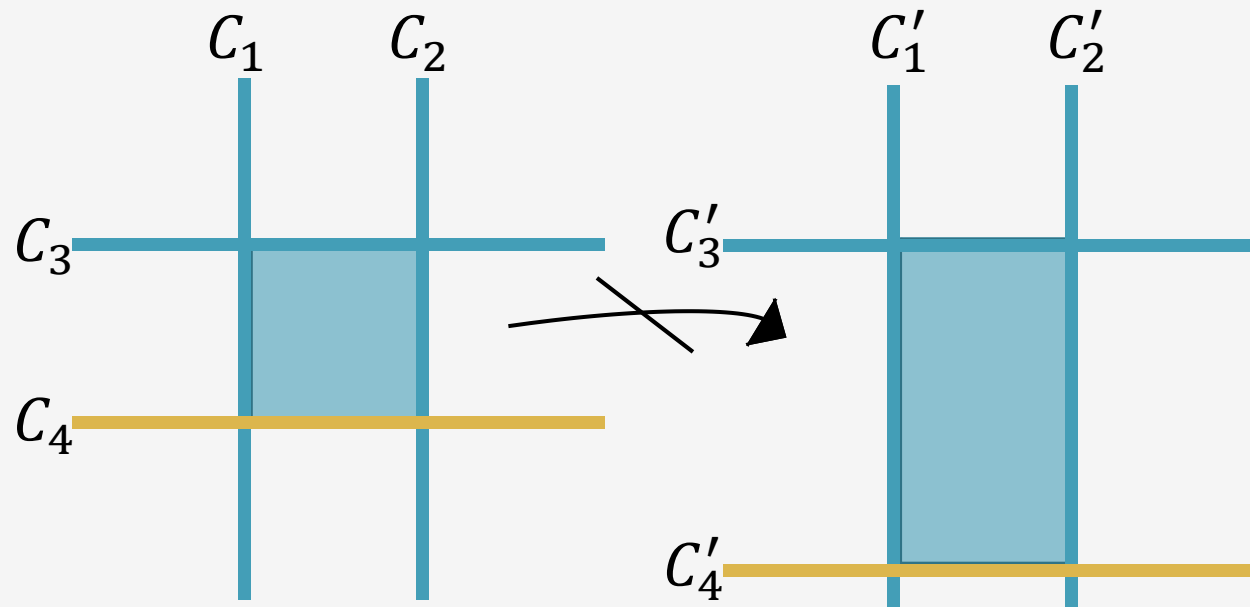
$d_H(x, y)$   
 $1 < (C, C') = \cos(id_H(x, y)) < \infty$



$d_H(x, y)$   
 $-\infty < (C, C') < -1$

# *Inversive Distance Primer*

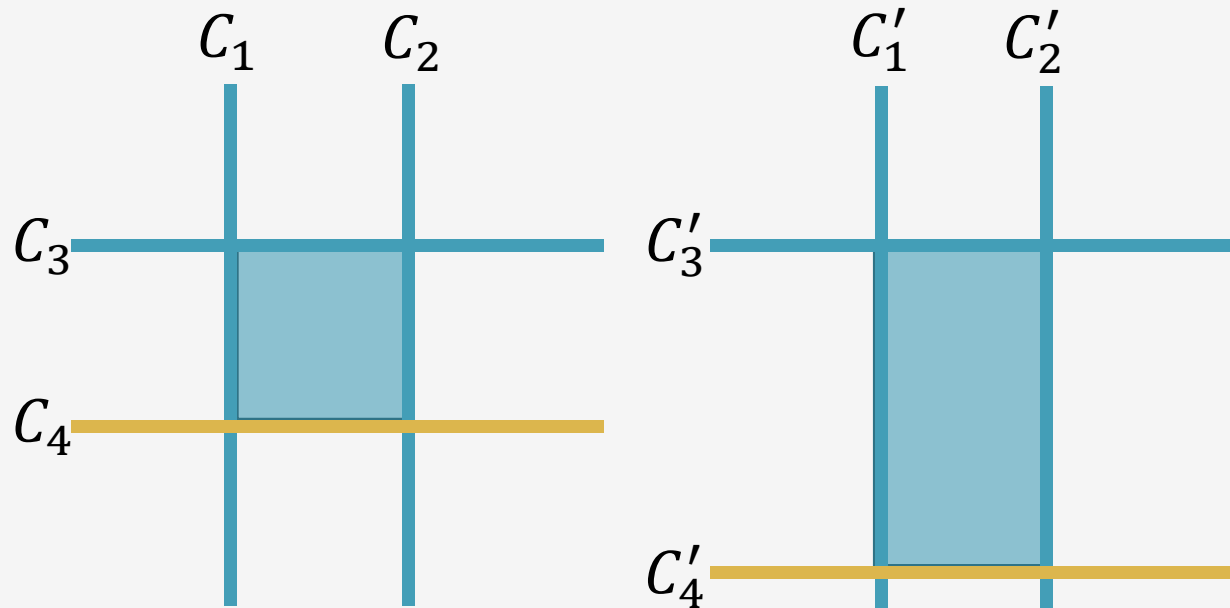
# Crane & Short's Condition



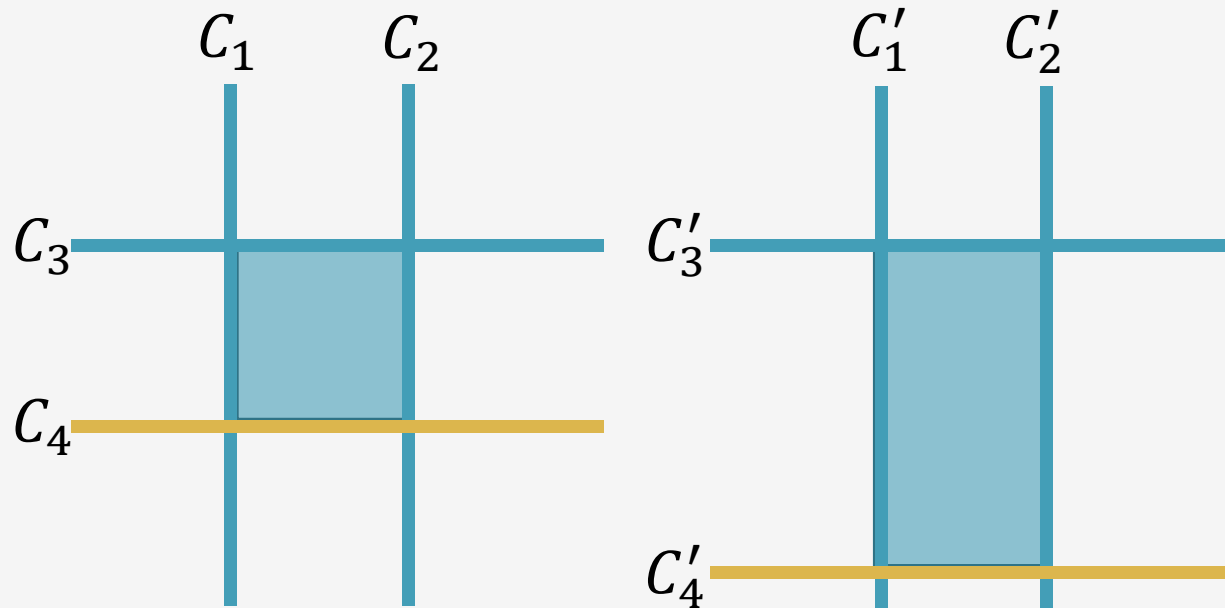
$$\nexists f \in \text{Möb}(\hat{\mathbb{C}})$$

# *Crane & Short's Condition*

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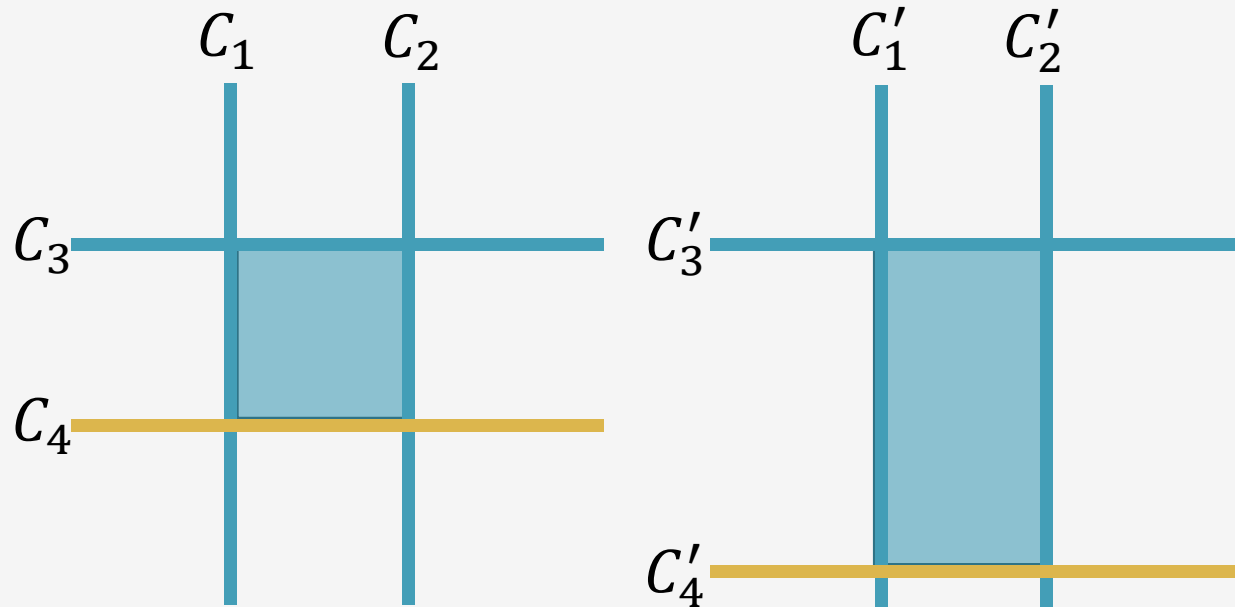


# *Crane & Short's Condition*

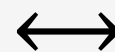


Point  $\infty$  common to  
all circles

# Crane & Short's Condition



Point  $\infty$  common to  
all circles



All space-like  
vectors lie on  
common light-like  
space