

# Conformal geometry in four variables and a deformation complex in five

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# Conformal geometry in four variables

and a deformation complex in ~~five~~ **cing**?

The de Rham complex in four (conformal) variables

$$0 \rightarrow \Lambda^0 \xrightarrow{d} \Lambda^1 \begin{array}{l} \nearrow \Lambda_+^2 \\ \searrow \Lambda_-^2 \end{array} \oplus \begin{array}{l} \nearrow \Lambda^3 \\ \searrow \Lambda^3 \end{array} \rightarrow \Lambda^4 \rightarrow 0$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \Lambda_+^2 = \{\omega \text{ s.t. } * \omega = +\omega\} \\ \Lambda_-^2 = \{\omega \text{ s.t. } * \omega = -\omega\} \end{array} \right\} \text{ in Riemannian or } \boxed{\text{neutral}} \text{ signature}$$

$$SO^\uparrow(2, 2) \xleftarrow{1:2} SL(2, \mathbb{R}) \times SL(2, \mathbb{R}) \quad \underline{\text{spinors}}$$

$$S(GL(2, \mathbb{R}) \times GL(2, \mathbb{R})) \quad \underline{\text{conformal spinors}}$$

# Conformal geometry: the flat model

$$M = \text{Gr}_2(\mathbb{R}^4) = \{\Pi \subset \mathbb{R}^4 \text{ s.t. } \dim \Pi = 2\}$$

$$= \text{SL}(4, \mathbb{R}) / \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * \end{pmatrix} \right\} = G/P = \bullet \text{---} \times \text{---} \bullet$$

$$\text{S}(\text{GL}(2, \mathbb{R}) \times \text{GL}(2, \mathbb{R}))$$

$$T_\Pi M = \text{Hom}(\Pi, \mathbb{R}^4/\Pi) = \Pi^* \otimes \mathbb{R}^4/\Pi \sim S' \otimes S = \bullet \text{---} \overset{0}{\times} \text{---} \bullet \otimes \bullet \text{---} \overset{0}{\times} \text{---} \bullet$$

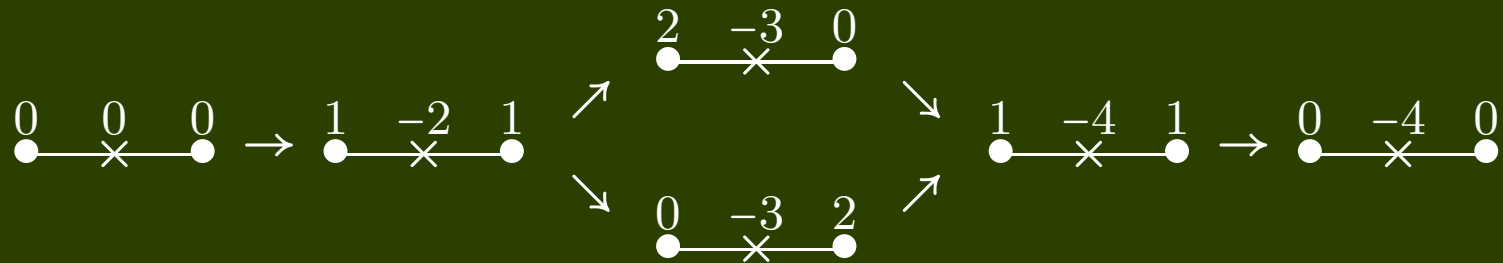
Dually,

spin bundles

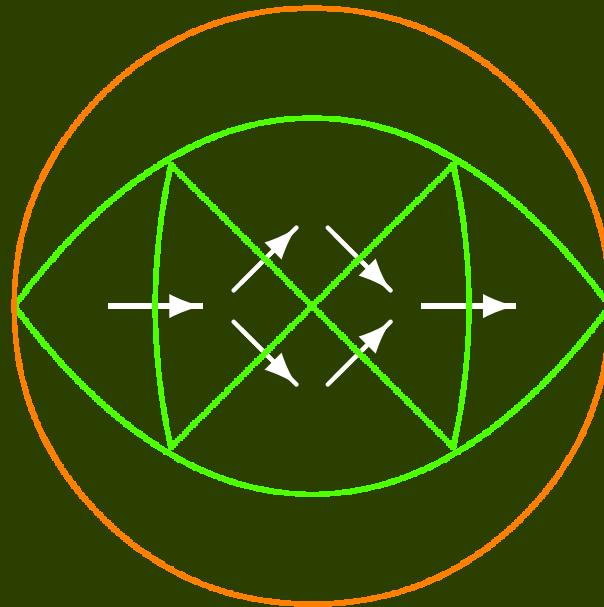
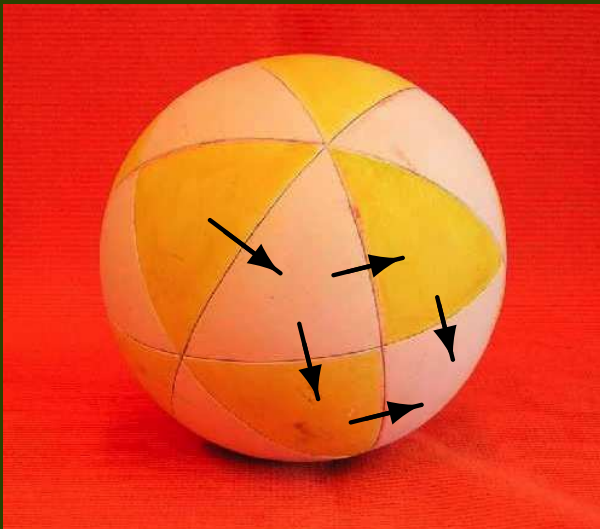
$$\Lambda_M^1 = S'^* \otimes S^* = \bullet \text{---} \overset{-1}{\times} \text{---} \bullet \otimes \bullet \text{---} \overset{-1}{\times} \text{---} \bullet = \bullet \text{---} \overset{-2}{\times} \text{---} \bullet$$

$$\Lambda_M^2 = (\odot^2 S'^* \otimes \Lambda^2 S^*) \oplus (\Lambda^2 S'^* \otimes \odot^2 S^*) = \bullet \text{---} \overset{-3}{\times} \text{---} \bullet \oplus \bullet \text{---} \overset{-3}{\times} \text{---} \bullet = \Lambda_+^2 \oplus \Lambda_-^2$$

# de Rham revisited



Road map

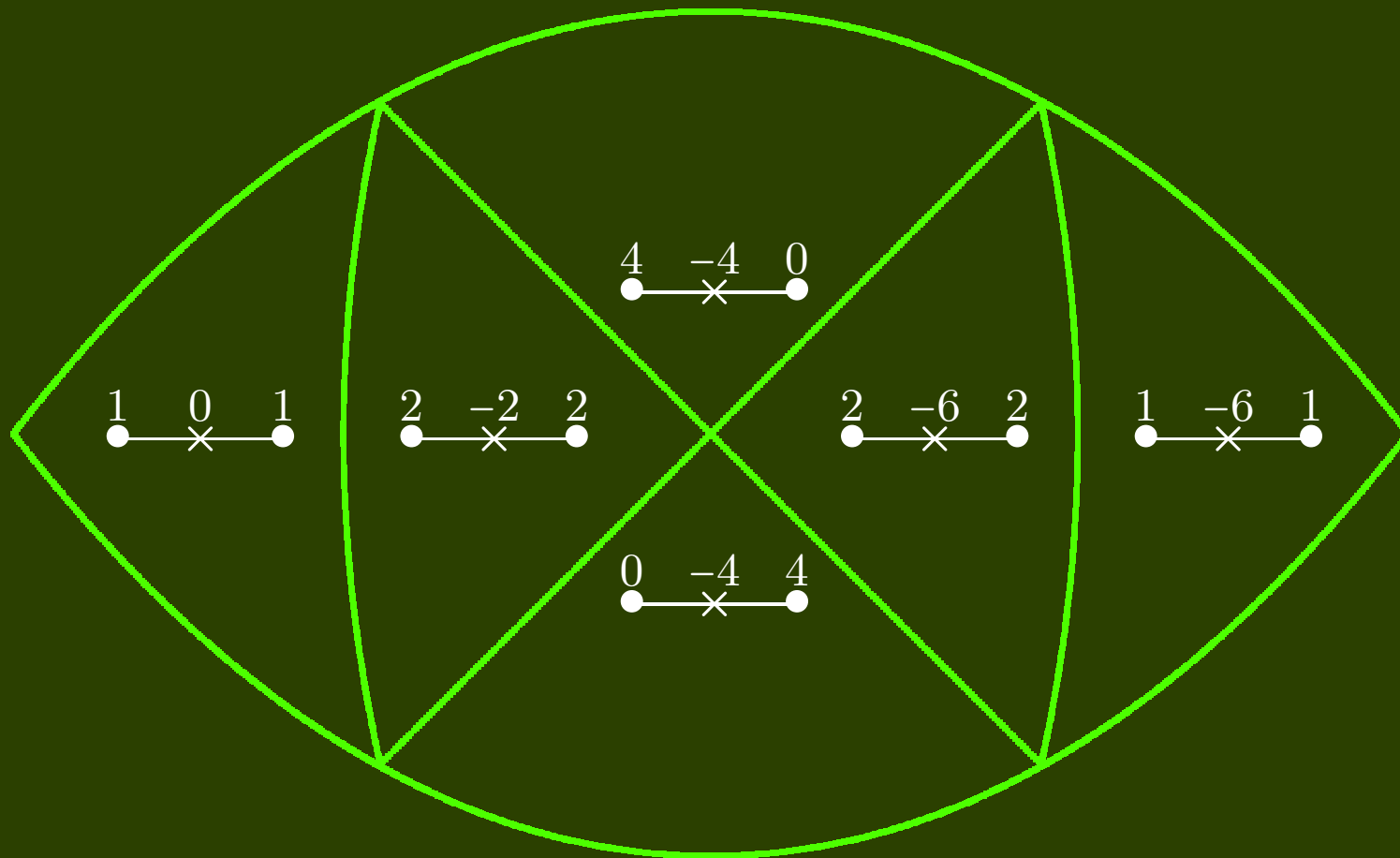


Can view as  
a lune on a sphere!

The countries are  
A3 Weyl chambers!

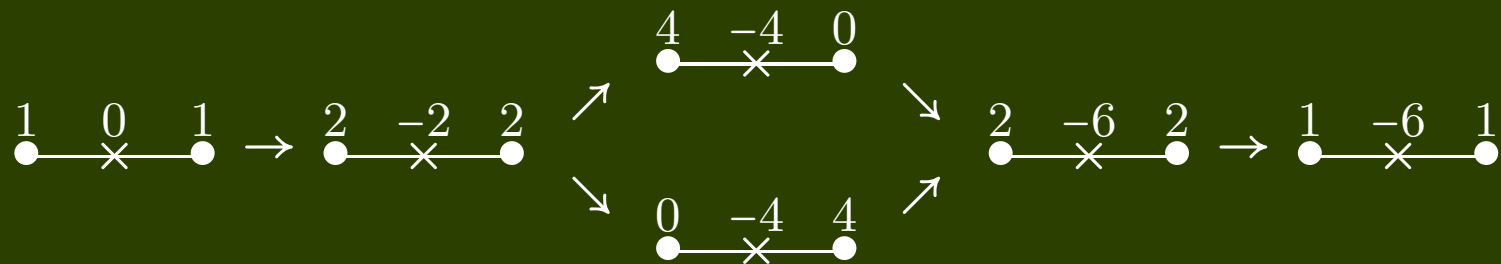
# Conformal deformation complex

Recall tangent bundle  $= S' \otimes S = \begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ \bullet & \times & \bullet \end{matrix} \otimes \begin{matrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \bullet & \times & \bullet \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ \bullet & \times & \bullet \end{matrix}$

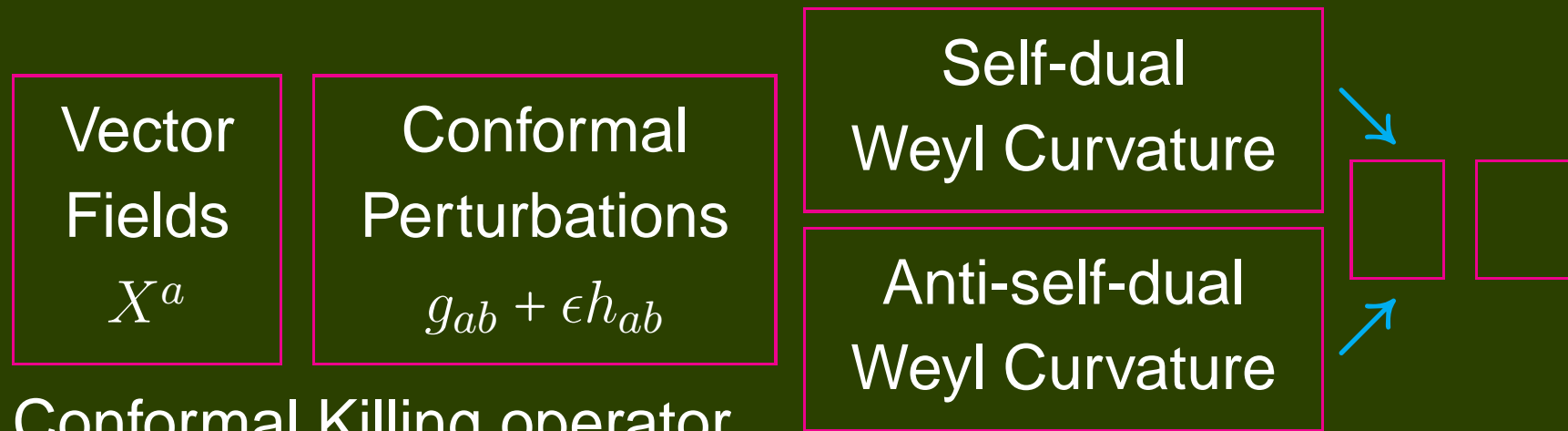


Affine action of the Weyl group of  $A_3$   $(\lambda \mapsto w(\lambda + \rho) - \rho)$

# Conformal deformation complex cont'd



Curved version (deformation sequence)



Conformal Killing operator

$$X^a \mapsto h_{ab} \equiv \nabla_{(a} X_{b)} - \text{trace}$$

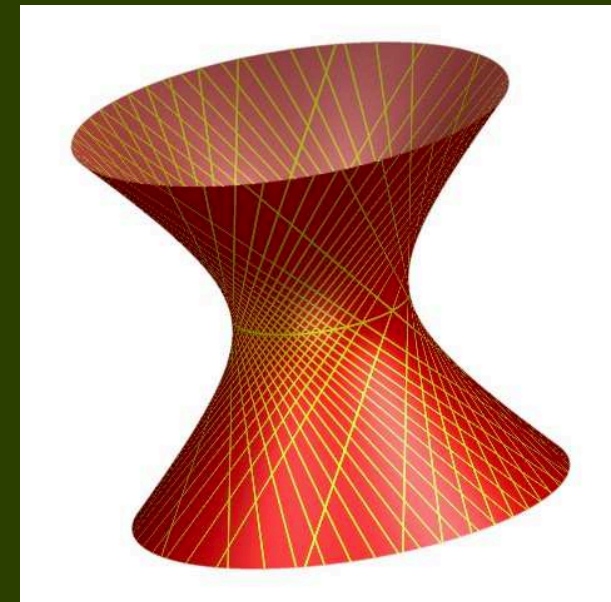
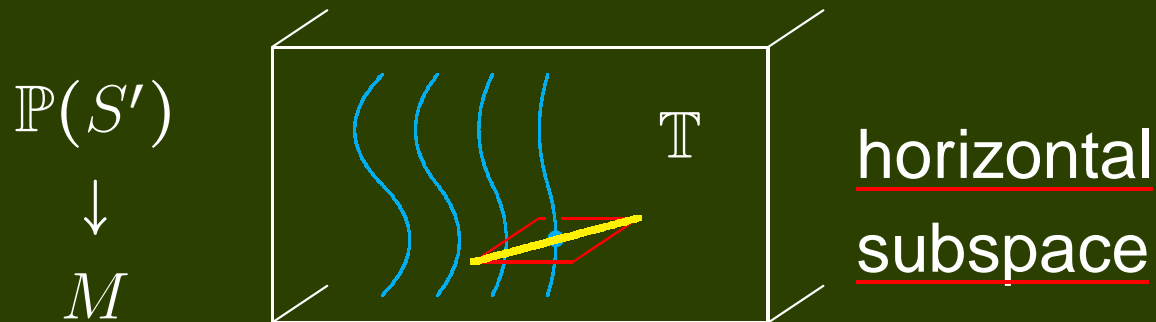
Second order!  
Bianchi/Bach

# Twistor construction

Recall  $\text{Spin}(2, 2) \cong \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}) \times \text{SL}(2, \mathbb{R}) \rightsquigarrow$  Spin bundles

$$TM = S' \otimes S \quad \text{null vectors} = \text{simple vectors}$$

Segre  $\mathbb{RP}_1 \times \mathbb{RP}_1 \hookrightarrow \mathbb{RP}_3$  nonsingular quadric as image



The blue lines and yellow planes are conformally invariant

$$\widehat{\nabla}_{AA'}\phi_{B'} = \nabla_{AA'}\phi_{B'} - \Upsilon_{AB'}\phi_{A'}$$

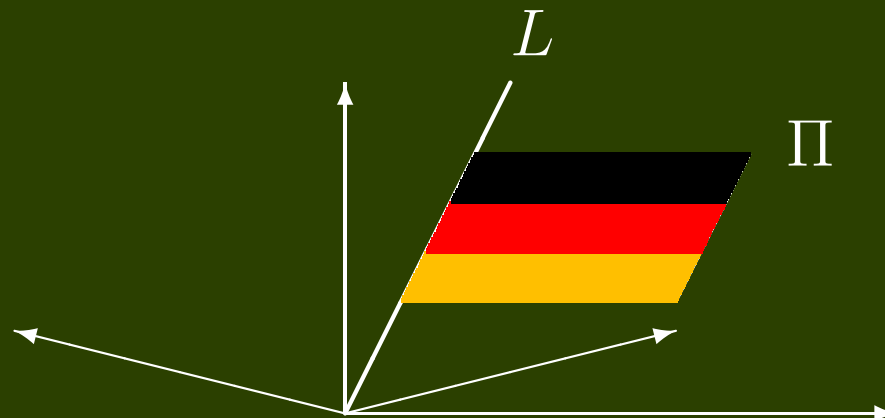
# Five variables geometry

There are two! Let  $\mathbb{T}$  be a 5-dimensional manifold.

- $\ell \oplus D \subset T\mathbb{T}$  s.t.  $[D, D] \subseteq \ell \oplus D$  and  $[\ell \oplus D, \ell \oplus D] = T\mathbb{T}$
- $D \subset T\mathbb{T}$  s.t.  $[D, [D, D]] = T\mathbb{T}$  (2, 3, 5) geometry

Flat models are generalised flag manifolds

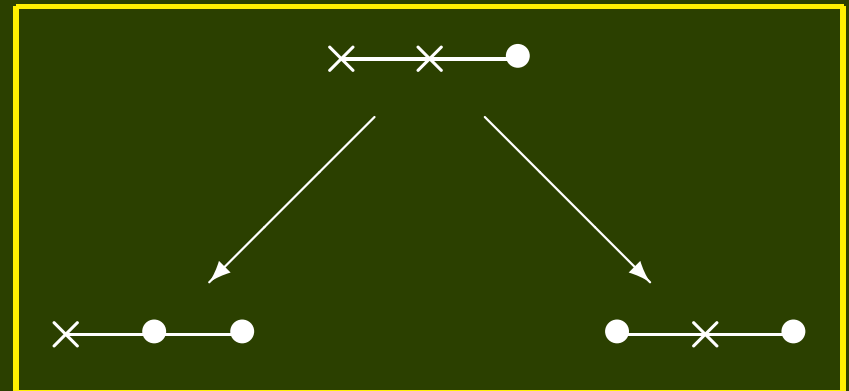
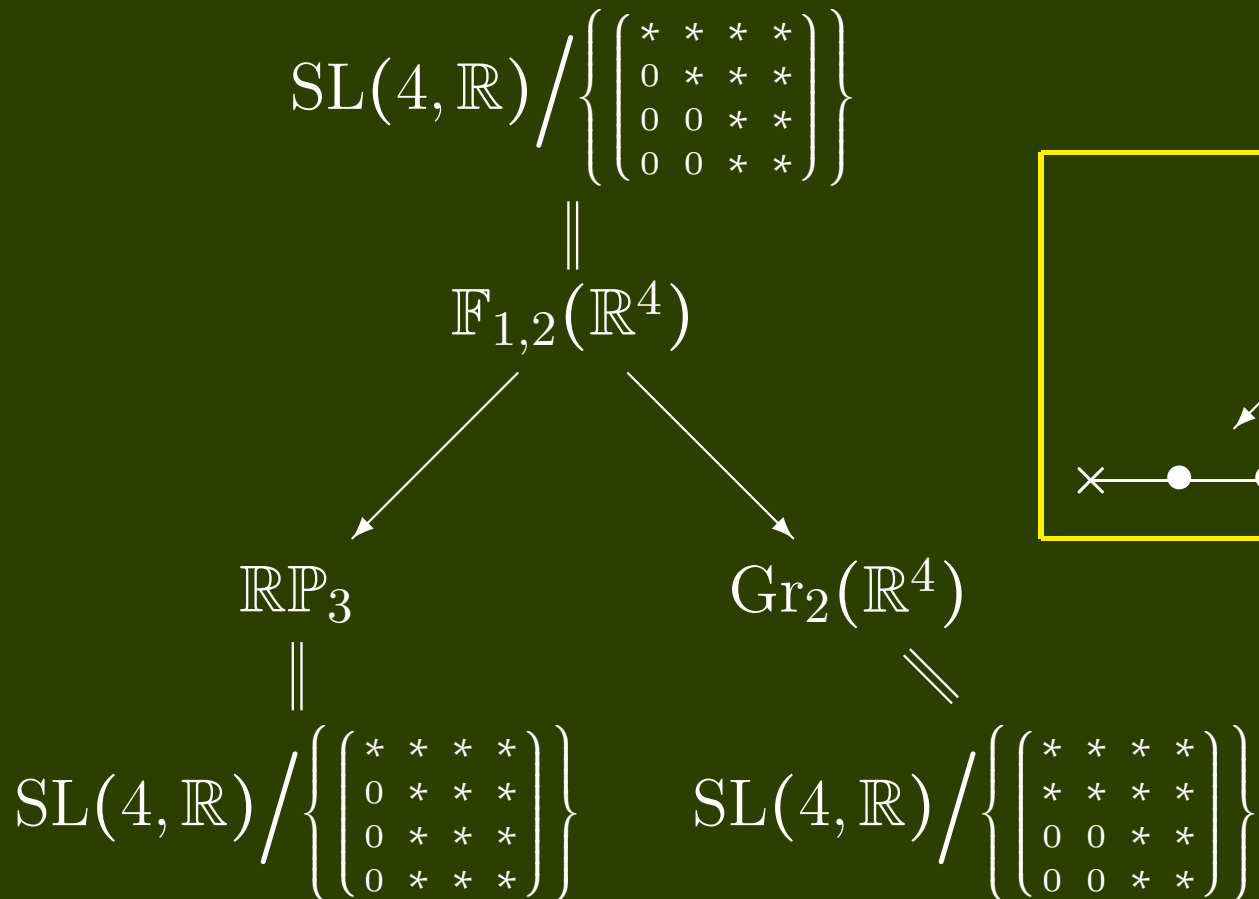
- $\mathbb{F}_{1,2}(\mathbb{R}^4) = \{L \subset \Pi \subset \mathbb{R}^4 \text{ s.t. } \dim L = 1, \dim \Pi = 2\}$



- $G/P = G_2/P = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$



# Twistor correspondence



# An-Nurowski construction

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Riemannian} \\ \text{Surfaces} \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} (\Sigma_1, g_1) \\ (\Sigma_2, g_2) \end{array} \sim M \equiv (\Sigma_1 \times \Sigma_2, g_1 \times -g_2)$$

$\downarrow$

$\mathbb{T}(M)$

$\parallel$

Configuration space  
of  $\Sigma_1$  rolling on  $\Sigma_2$

- Twistor structure  $\ell \oplus D$  (five variables)
- Suppose  $[D, D] = \ell \oplus D$  (generic)
- Forget  $\ell$  but retain  $D$  (cinq variables)
- EG (Bryant) spheres of radii 1 and 3:  $G_2$ -flat
- (An-Nurowski) new  $G_2$ -flat examples rolling on a plane!

# Differential complexes in five variables

Parabolic subgroups of  $SL(4, \mathbb{R})$

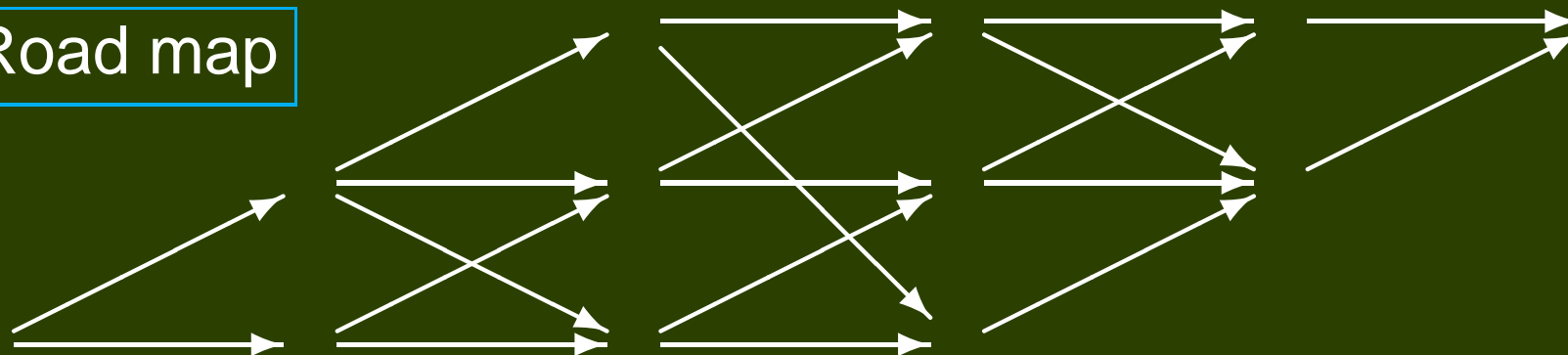
$\xleftrightarrow{1:1}$  lunes compatible with the A3 tiling of the sphere

$$\mathbb{F}_{1,2}(\mathbb{R}^4) = \times \text{---} \times \text{---} \bullet \leftrightarrow \text{a hemisphere}$$

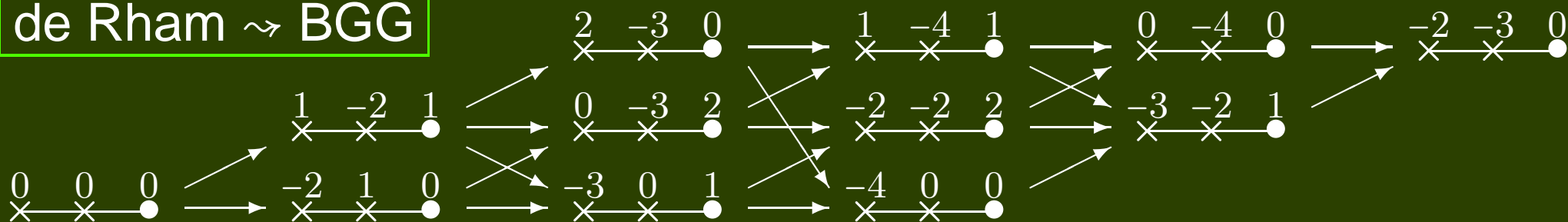


# Differential complexes cont'd

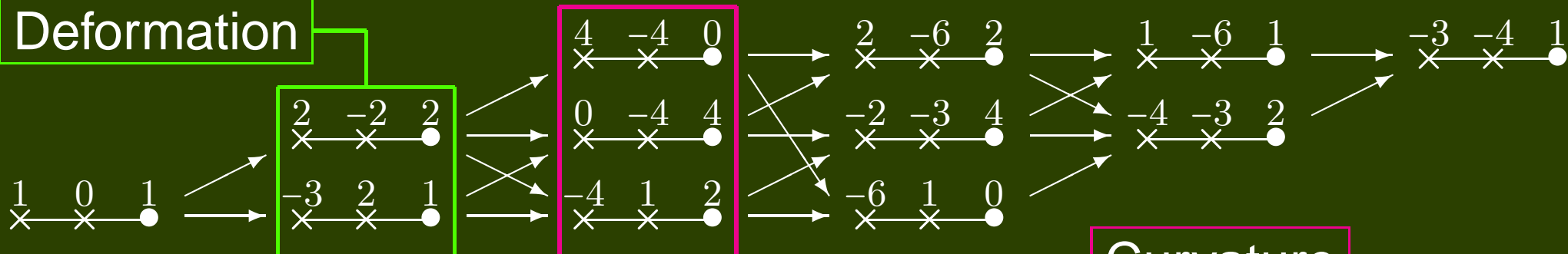
Road map



de Rham  $\rightsquigarrow$  BGG

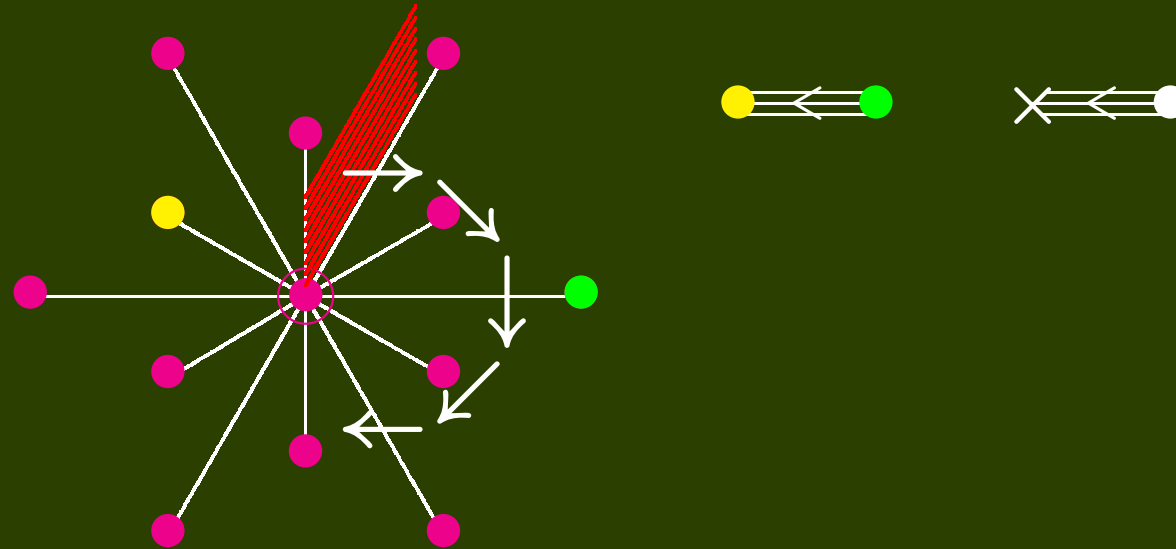


Deformation



Curvature

# G2 road map



$$\begin{array}{c} 0 \quad 0 \\ \times \leftarrow \bullet \end{array} \xrightarrow{\nabla} \begin{array}{c} -2 \quad 1 \\ \times \leftarrow \bullet \end{array} \xrightarrow{\nabla^3} \begin{array}{c} -5 \quad 2 \\ \times \leftarrow \bullet \end{array} \xrightarrow{\nabla^2} \begin{array}{c} -6 \quad 2 \\ \times \leftarrow \bullet \end{array} \xrightarrow{\nabla^3} \begin{array}{c} -6 \quad 1 \\ \times \leftarrow \bullet \end{array} \xrightarrow{\nabla} \begin{array}{c} -5 \quad 0 \\ \times \leftarrow \bullet \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} 0 \quad 1 \\ \times \leftarrow \bullet \end{array} \xrightarrow{\nabla} \begin{array}{c} -2 \quad 2 \\ \times \leftarrow \bullet \end{array} \xrightarrow{\nabla^6} \begin{array}{c} -8 \quad 4 \\ \times \leftarrow \bullet \end{array} \xrightarrow{\nabla^2} \begin{array}{c} -9 \quad 4 \\ \times \leftarrow \bullet \end{array} \xrightarrow{\nabla^6} \begin{array}{c} -9 \quad 2 \\ \times \leftarrow \bullet \end{array} \xrightarrow{\nabla} \begin{array}{c} -8 \quad 1 \\ \times \leftarrow \bullet \end{array}$$

Business end of  
a vector field

Deformation

Cartan  
curvature

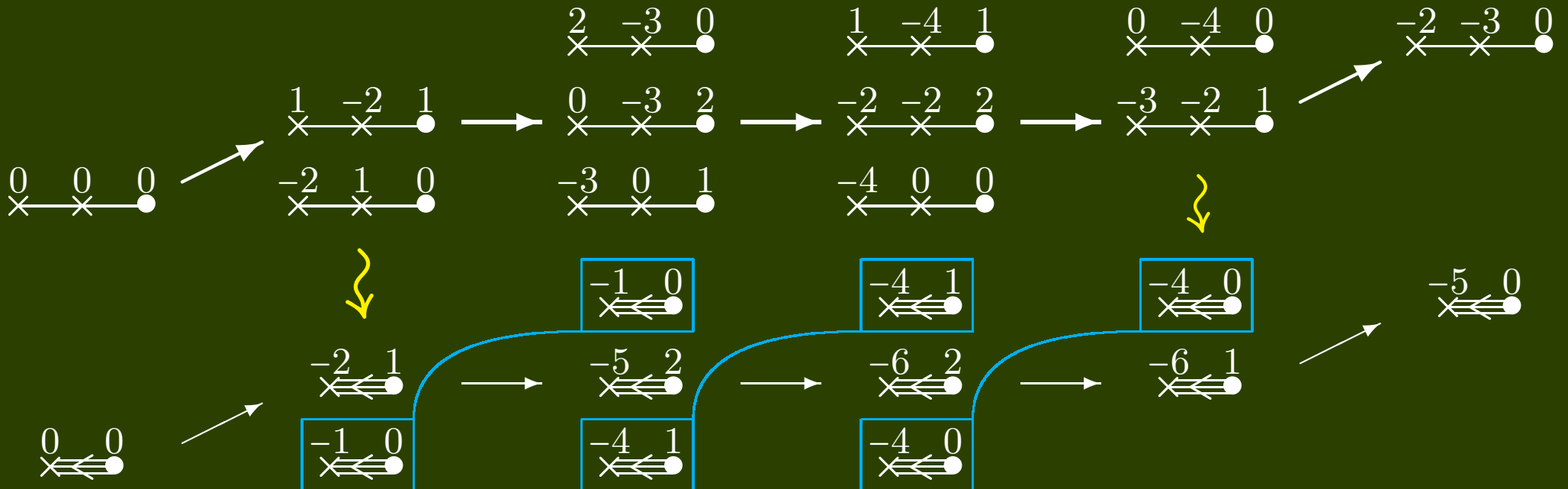
# From $\times \text{---} \times \text{---} \bullet$ to $\times \text{---} \times \text{---} \bullet$

Recall  $\begin{matrix} 4 & -4 & 0 \\ \times & \times & \bullet \end{matrix}$  Obstruction to integrability of  $D$

Curvature  $\begin{matrix} 0 & -4 & 4 \\ \times & \times & \bullet \end{matrix}$

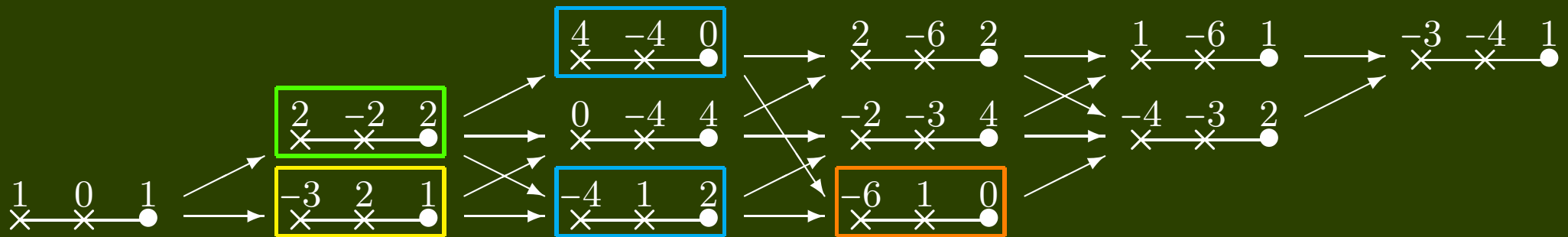
$\begin{matrix} -4 & 1 & 2 \\ \times & \times & \bullet \end{matrix}$  Vanishes on  $\mathbb{T}(\bullet \text{---} \times \text{---} \bullet)$

$[D, D] = \ell \oplus D$  triggers collapse  $\begin{matrix} 4 & -4 & 0 \\ \times & \times & \bullet \end{matrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{matrix} 0 & 0 \\ \times \text{---} \times \text{---} \bullet \end{matrix}$   
 $\begin{matrix} a & b & c \\ \times & \times & \bullet \end{matrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{matrix} a+b-c & c \\ \times \text{---} \times \text{---} \bullet \end{matrix}$

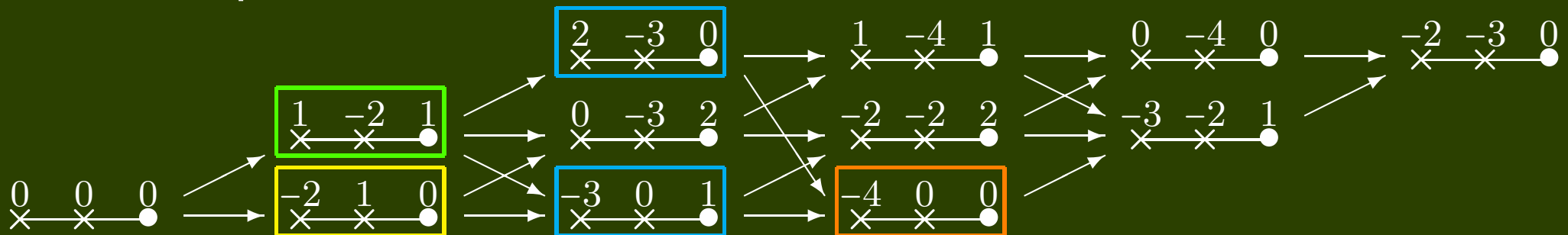


# Theorem

## Flat model



## Compare



Translate  $\implies$

There are (2,3,5) geometries that do not arise from a neutral signature conformal structure via the An-Nurowski twistor construction.

# Easy algorithms!





THANK YOU

Alles Gute zum Geburtstag

Alles Gute zum Geburtstag

Alles Gute zum Geburtstag

Alles Gute zum Geburtstag



HAPPY BIRTHDAY HELGA!



Alles Gute zum Geburtstag

Alles Gute zum Geburtstag