

**A new weakly universal  
cellular automaton in the  
3D hyperbolic space with two  
states**

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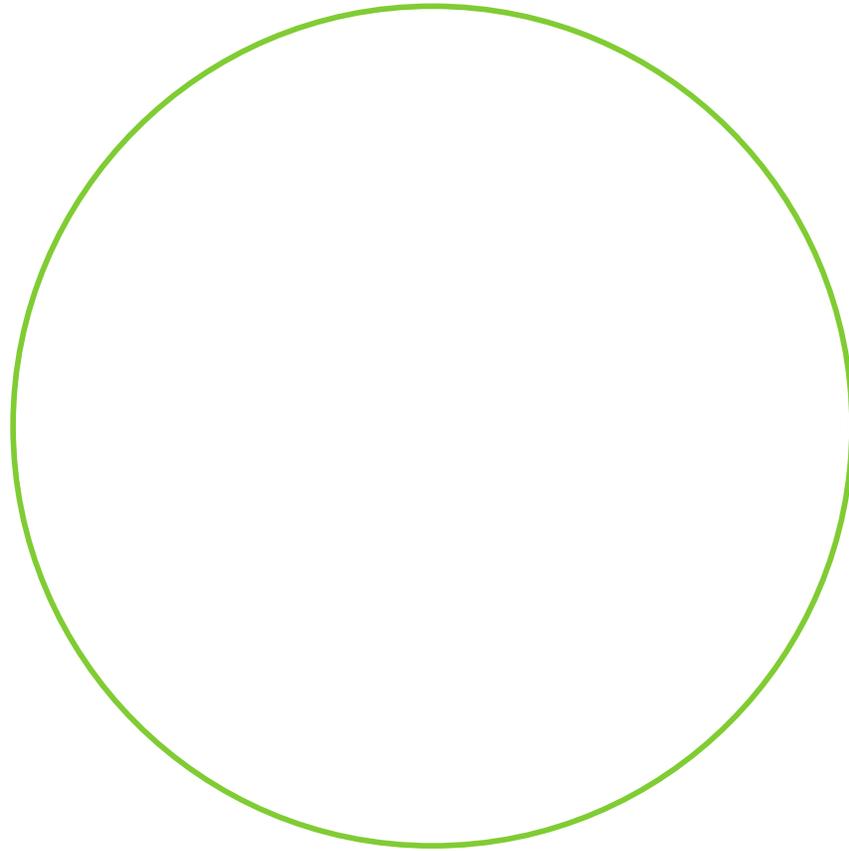
**Genova, ITALY**

**in this talk:**

- 1. recall from hyperbolic geometry**
- 2. pentagrid and dodecagrid**
- 3. CA's in the dodecagrid**
- 4. railway simulation**
- 5. strong/weak universality in CA's**
- 6. a universal CA in the dodecagrid  
with 2 states**

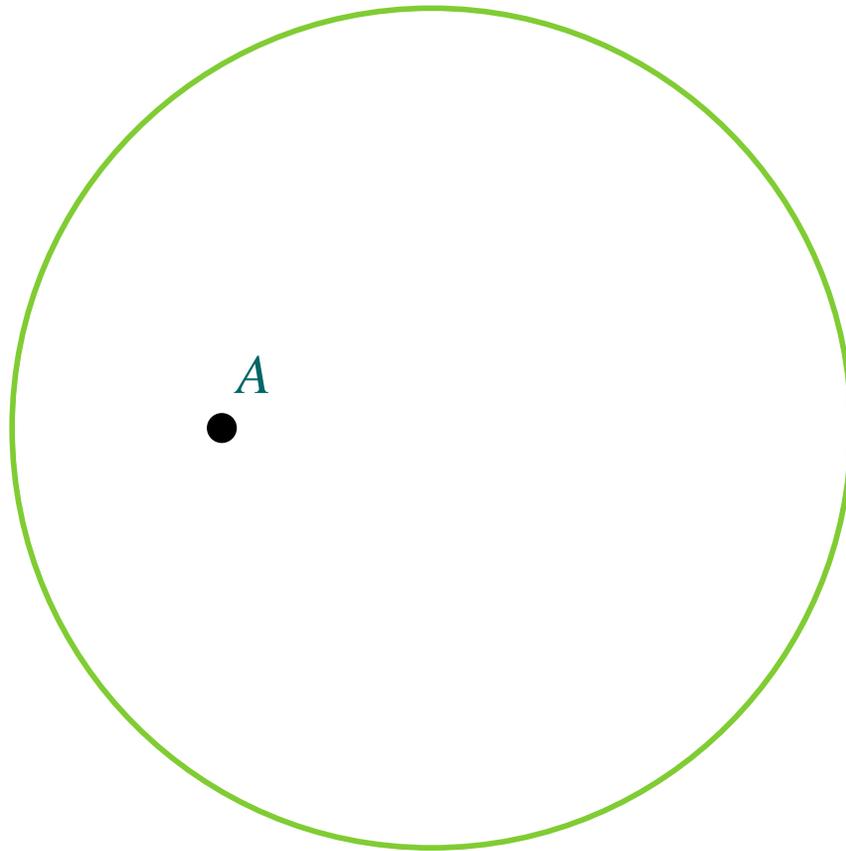
# 1. recall from hyperbolic geometry

# Poincaré's disc model



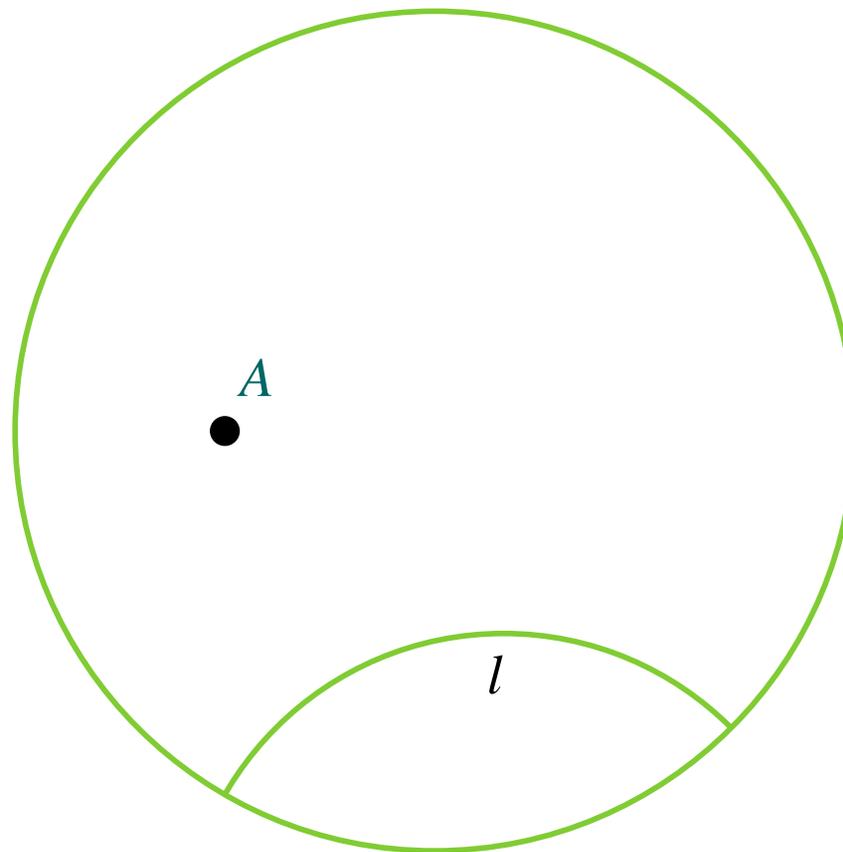
# Poincaré's disc model

a point  $A$



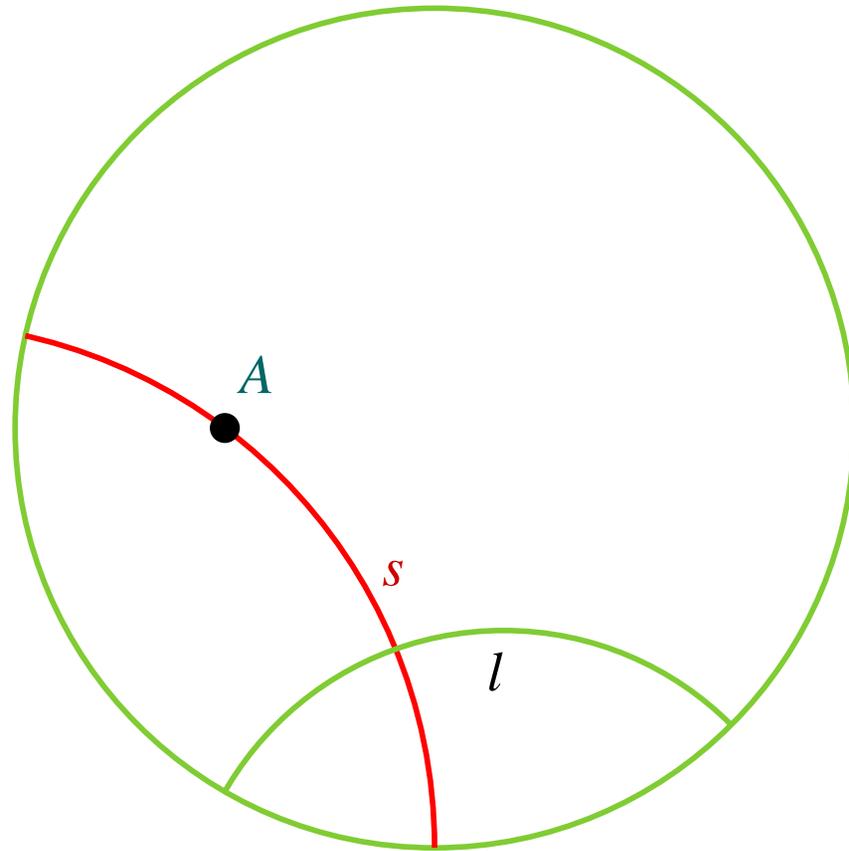
# Poincaré's disc model

a point  $A$   
a line  $l$



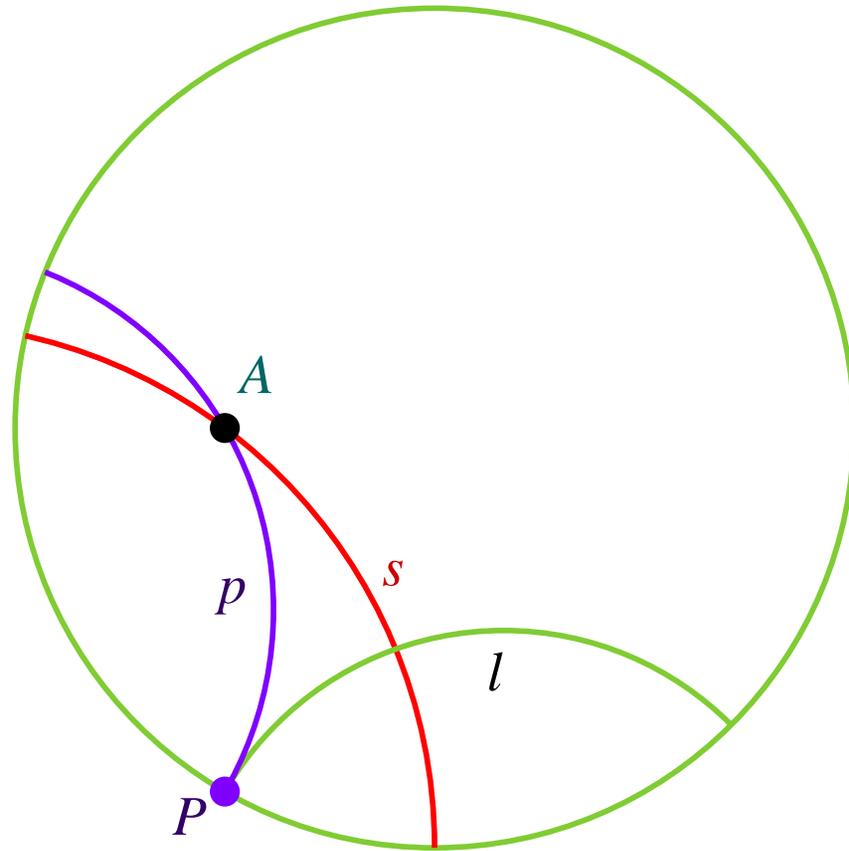
# Poincaré's disc model

a **secant**  
through  $A$   
which cuts  $\ell$



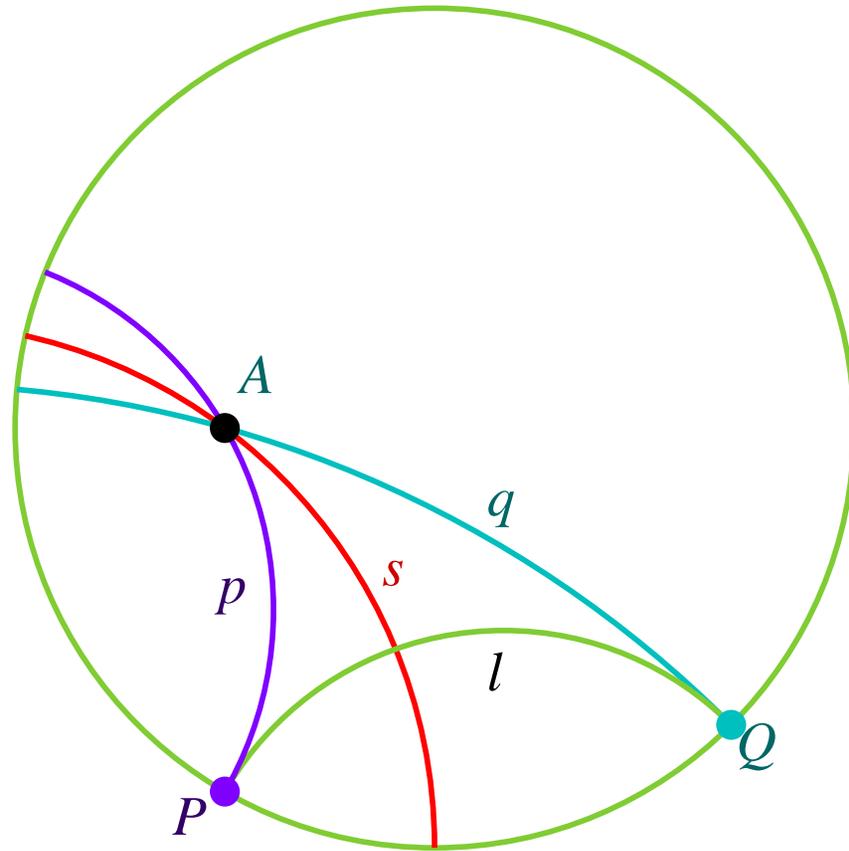
# Poincaré's disc model

a **parallel**  $p$   
to  $l$   
through  $A$



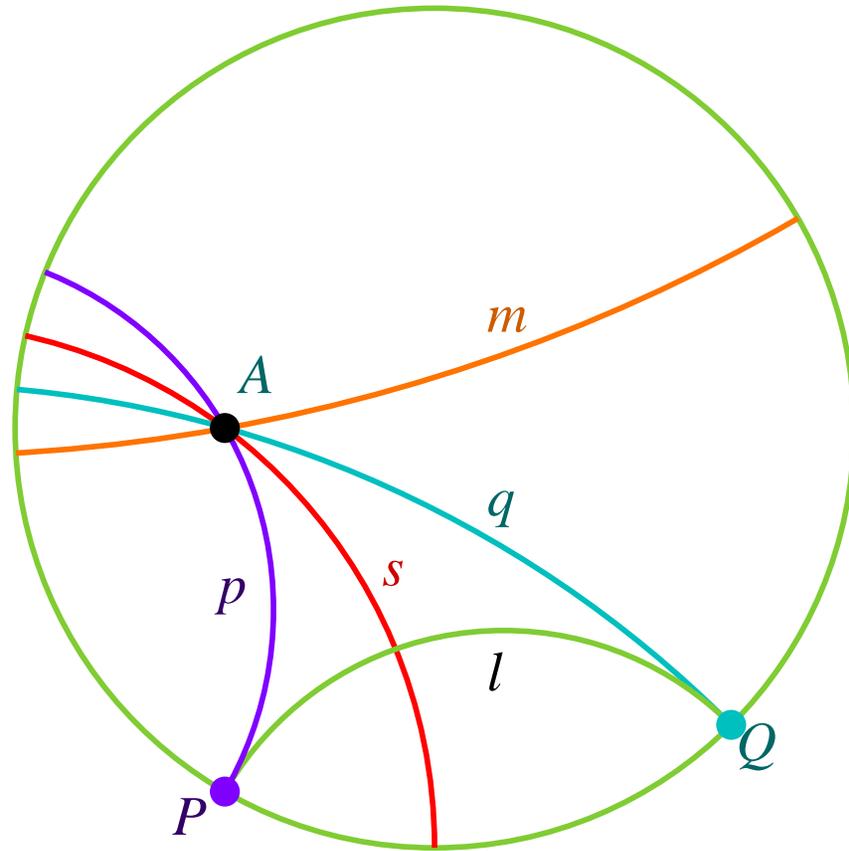
# Poincaré's disc model

another  
**parallel**  $q$   
to  $l$   
through  $A$



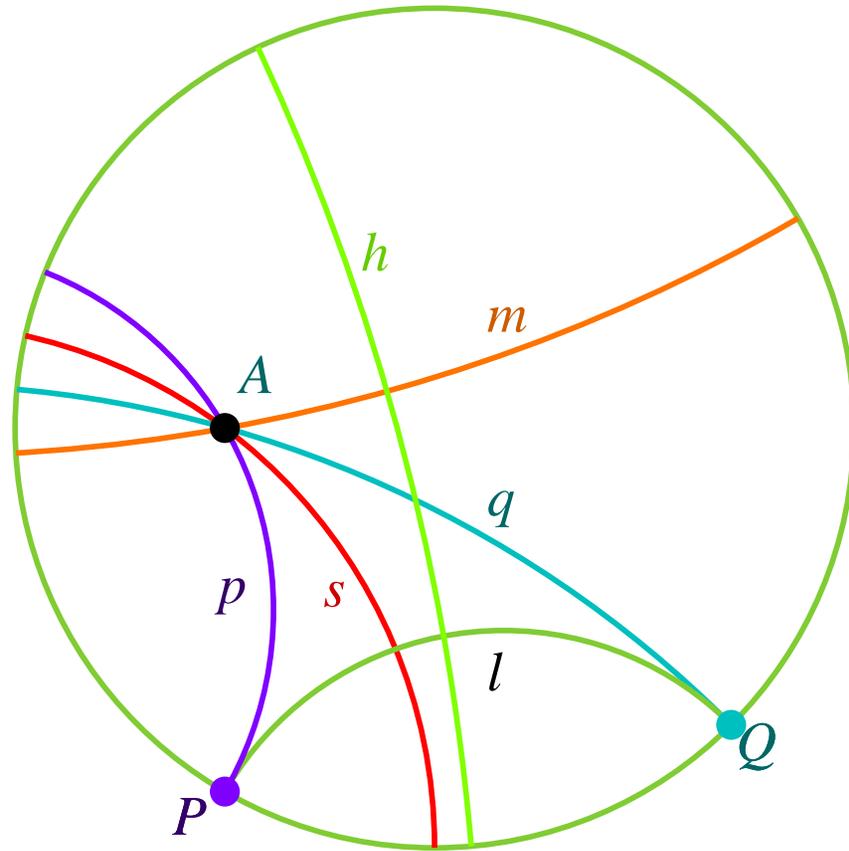
# Poincaré's disc model

a **non secant**  
line  $m$  to  $l$   
through  $A$



# Poincaré's disc model

the **common perpendicular** to  $l$  and to  $m$

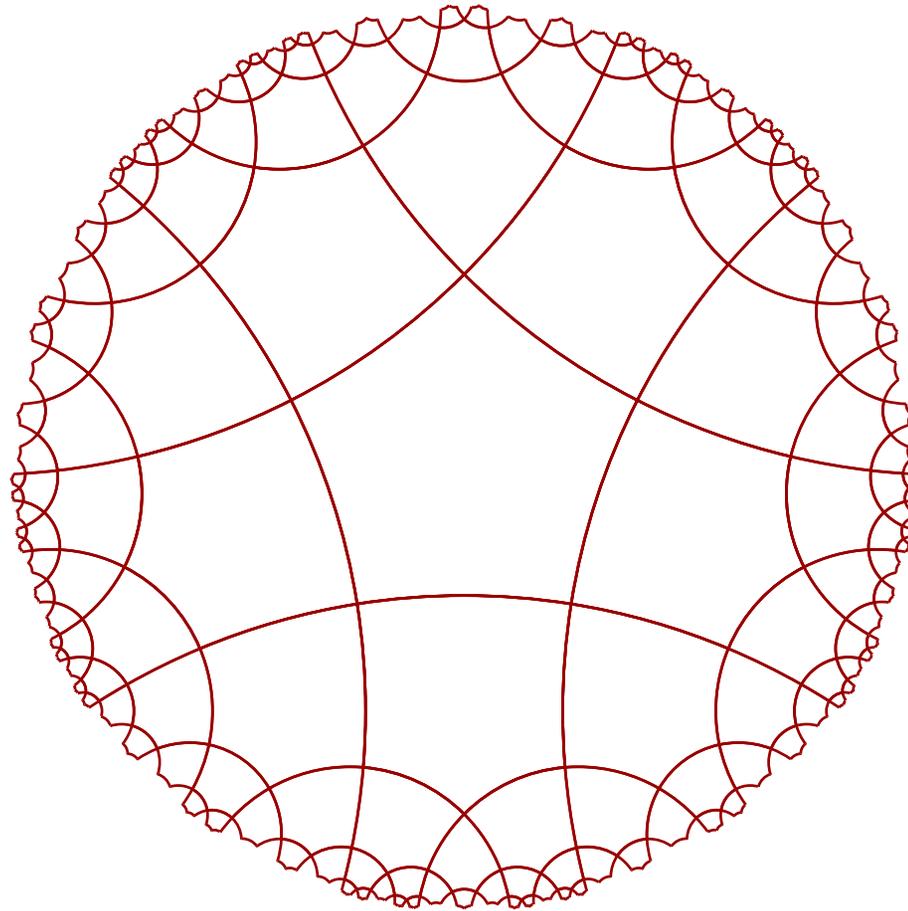


### 3. pentagrid and dodecagrid

in the **Euclidean spaces**,  
the square and the cubic grids  
**here**, this role played by  
the **pentagrid**  
and the **dodecagrid**

# the pentagrid

the simplest  
**rectangular**  
**grid** in the  
hyperbolic plane



## the $3D$ hyperbolic space

extend Poincaré's disc model  $\mathcal{P}$   
to Poincaré's ball model

points: the unit **open** ball

points at infinity: unit sphere  $\mathcal{S}$

planes: trace of

    a diametral plane, copy of  $\mathcal{D}$ ,

    a sphere orthogonal to  $\mathcal{S}$

lines: intersection of planes,  
each one in a diametral plane

## the $3D$ hyperbolic space

four tessellations  
one of them,

based on a **dodecahedron**,

extends the pentagrid to  $3D$ :

the **dodecagrid**

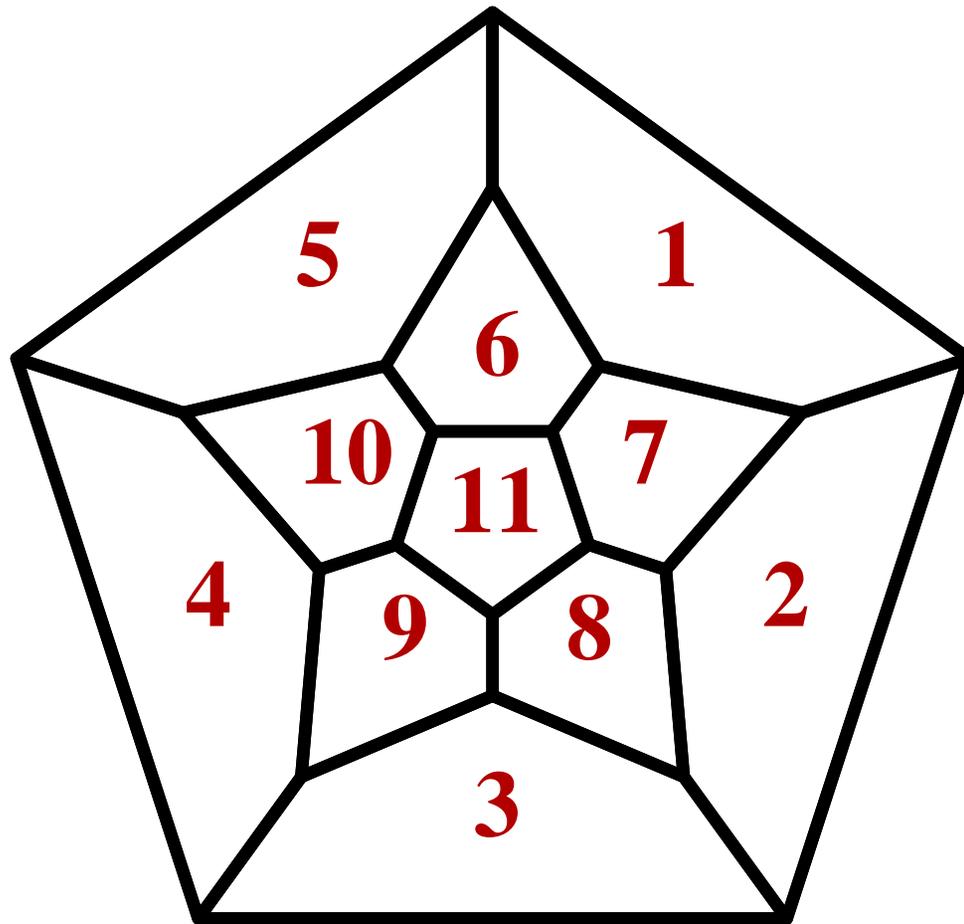
## the 3D hyperbolic space

important remark:

*the trace of the dodecagrid on  
the plane of one of its faces  
is the pentagrid*

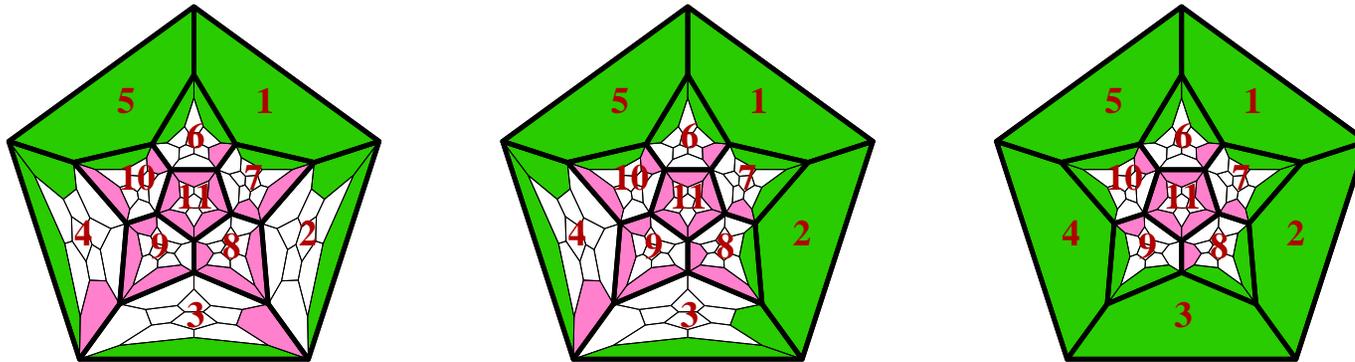
# the dodecagrid

projection  
onto the plane  
of face 0



# the dodecagrid

a spanning tree defines  
the tiling too,  
generation nodes:



## 4. CA's in the dodecagrid

## CA's in the dodecagrid

neighbours of  $\Delta$ :

the cells which share a face with  $\Delta$

the automaton is deterministic

and rotation invariant:

if the neighbourhood is changed

by a motion around  $\Delta$

which keeps orientation,

the new state is the same

## CA's in the dodecagrid

format of a rule

fix a numbering of the faces, then:

$\eta^0 \eta_0 \eta_1 \eta_2 \eta_3 \eta_4 \eta_5 \eta_6 \eta_7 \eta_8 \eta_9 \eta_{10} \eta_{11} \eta^1$

with:

$\eta^0$ : current state of the cell

$\eta_i$ : state of neighbour  $i$ ,  
the other cell sharing face  $i$

$\eta^1$ : new state of the cell,  
after applying the rule

$\eta^0 \dots \eta_{11}$  is the **context** of the rule

## rotation invariance

numbering of the faces fixed,

enumerate all positive motions  
leaving  $\Delta$  globally invariant

to each motion,  
associate the word obtained from

the rule once the motion  
applied to the cell,  
the numbering being still fixed

## rotation invariance

the **minimal rotated form**:

the rule whose associated word  
is lexicographically the smallest one

hence a test for rotation invariance

### **lemma**

a CA is rotationally invariant  
if and only if any pair of its  
rules giving rise to the same  
minimal rotated context give  
the same new state

## rotation invariance

### enumerating the positive motions:

fix face 0 and face 1, say  $f_0$  and  $f_1$

orientation

$\Rightarrow f_0, f_1$  enough to restore numbering

if  $\rho = \rho(\Delta)$ ,  $\rho$  positive motion,  
then:

$\rho(f_0)$  is any face: 12 choices

and then  $\rho(f_1)$  is any face sharing  
an edge with  $\rho(f_0)$ : 5 choices

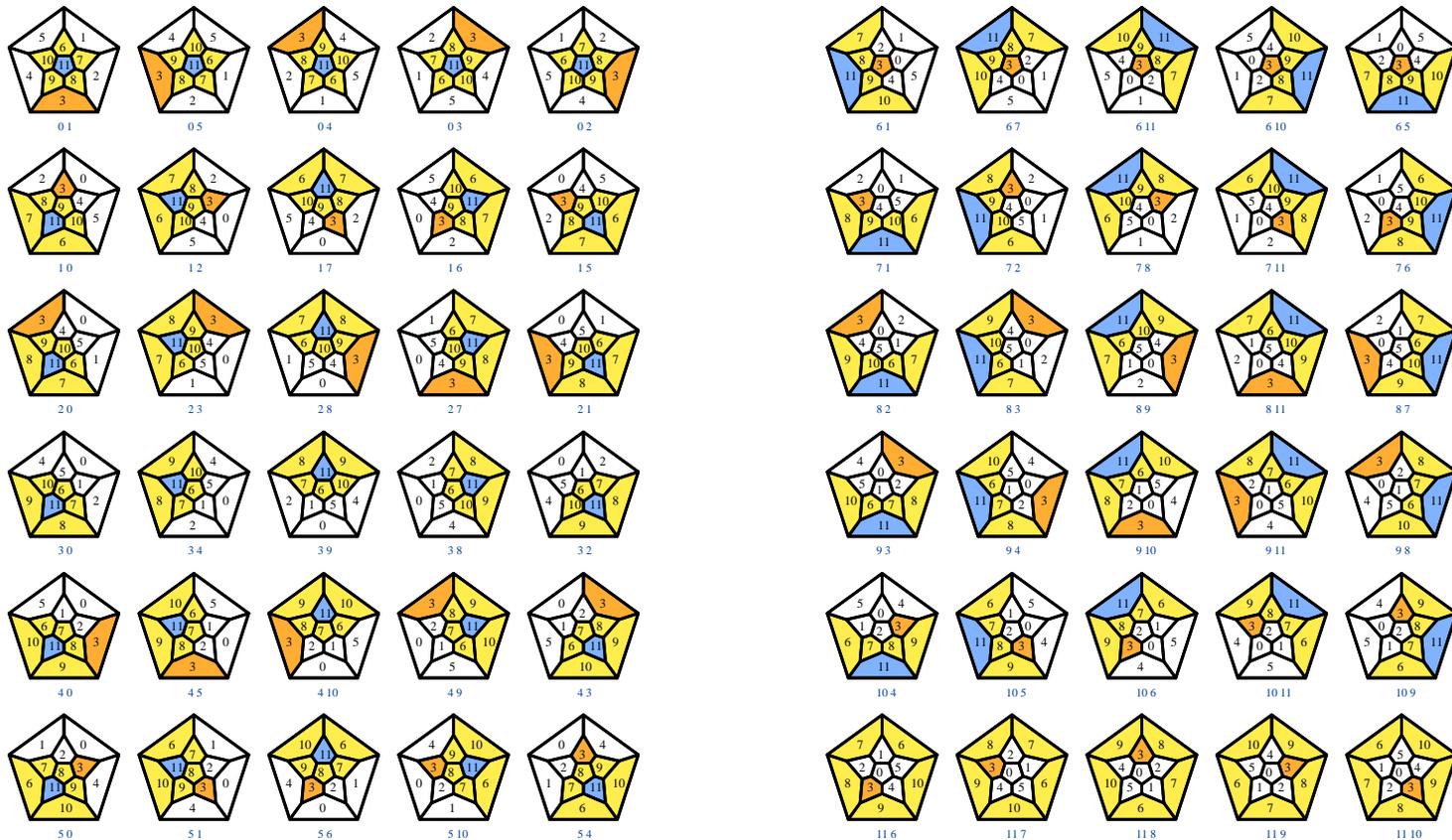
## rotation invariance

hence 60 motions leaving  
 $\Delta$  globally invariant

and we get an easy algorithm to  
check whether a CA in the  
dodecagrid is rotation invariant

# rotation invariance

the enumeration of the positive motions:



## rotation invariance

the positive motions leaving  $\Delta$  globally invariant constitute a group of 60 elements

this group is isomorphic to  $A_5$ , the group of permutations on 5 elements with positive signature

$A_5$  is known to be **simple**, hence:  
no nice decomposition,  
no easy representation

## 4. railway simulation

# the railway model

circuit in the tiling  
which consists of:

**tracks**

**crossings**

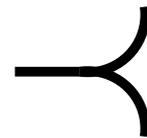
**switches**

a unique locomotive runs  
over the circuit

# the railway model

the switches

three types of them:



fix

flip-flop

memory

# the railway model

working of the switches

flip-flop:

only active passage,  
triggers the change of selection

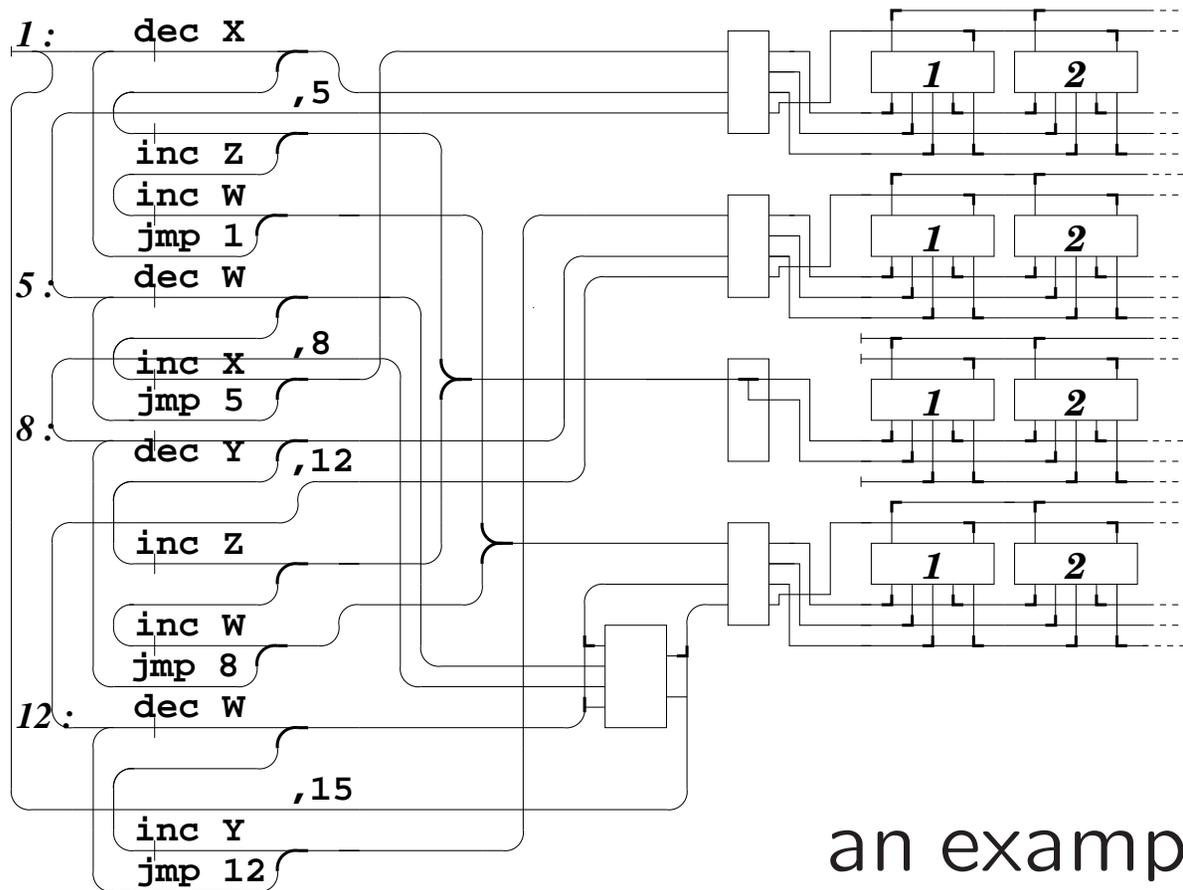
memory:

selected track = last passive passage

## the railway model

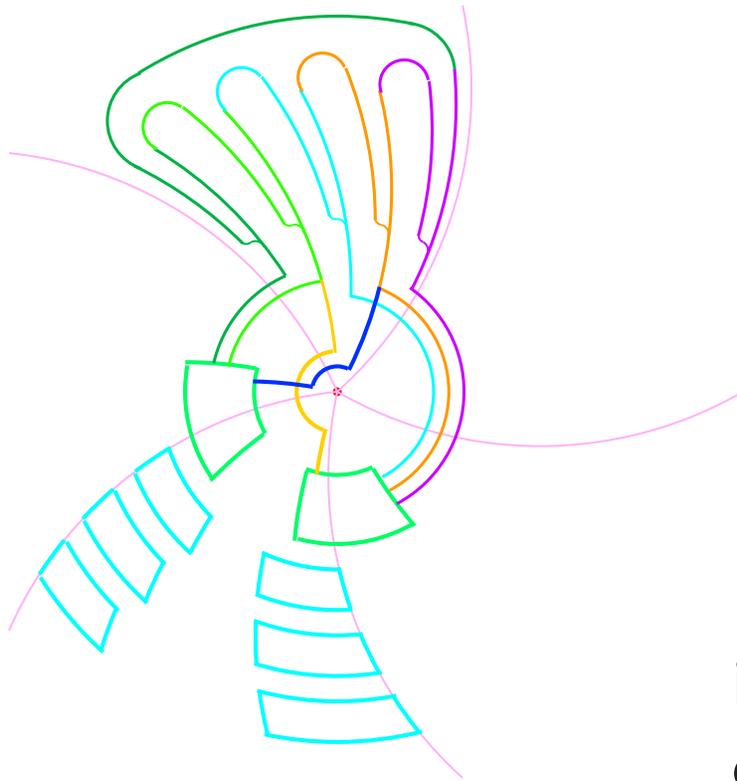
it is known that by  
assembling switches and tracks,  
a **universal computation** can  
be simulated by the motion of  
the locomotive

# the railway model



an example

# the railway model



implementation of the  
example in the pentagrid

5. strong/weak universality  
in CA's

## strong/weak universality:

the issue is the **initial configuration**

## strong universality:

the CA has a quiescent state  $q$ :  
a cell in  $q$  with all its neighbours  
in  $q$  remains in  $q$   
initial configuration:  
all cells are in  $q$  except,  
possibly, finitely many of them

**strong/weak universality:**

**weak universality:**

the initial configuration may be **infinite**  
but, outside a bounded region,  
it must be regular:

finitely many directions in which the  
corresponding part of the configuration  
is invariant under some shift along  
this direction

6. a universal CA in the  
dodecagrid with 2 states

## our implementations:

previous ones and this one:

mainly in a plane  $\Pi_0$

use of  $3D$ :

to replace crossings by bridges  
to differentiate the configurations  
of the switches

## our implementations:

a general remark:

to reduce the number of states  
sophisticate the configurations

## our implementations:

5 states (MM, 2004):

blank is white

tracks are blue

2-celled locomotive, **green** and **red**  
replacing 2 cells of the tracks

neighbouring of the switch centre:  
*3D*-decorations

## our implementations:

3 states (MM, 2010),

new features:

tracks are white too,  
marked with **blue milestones**

2-celled locomotive, **blue** and **red**  
replacing 2 cells of the tracks

## this implementation:

2 states, black and white world

new idea:

**one way tracks**

again white with black milestones

corollary:

new configuration of the switches

## this implementation:

2 states, black and white world

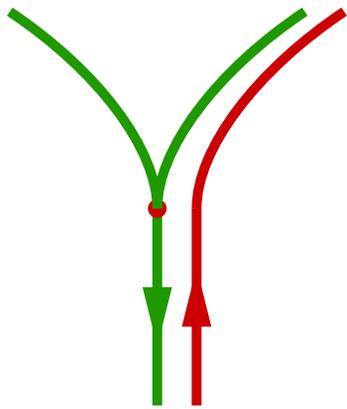
another consequence:

there can no more be a front  
and a rear for the locomotive

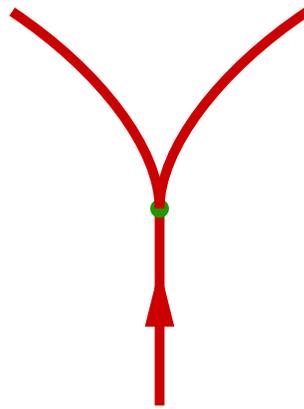
the locomotive is reduced to a  
unique black cell: the **particle**

## our implementation

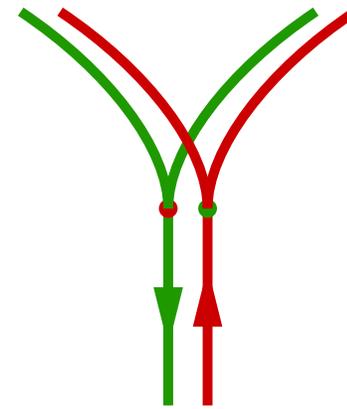
the new configuration of the switches:



fixed switch



flip-flop switch



memory switch

## our implementation

a remark:

introducing one way tracks  
introduces a new distinction:

**active** and **passive** switches

fixed switch: **passive**

flip-flop: **active**

memory switch: combination of  
both types

## our implementation:

representation of parts of the circuit

tracks

bridges

fixed switches

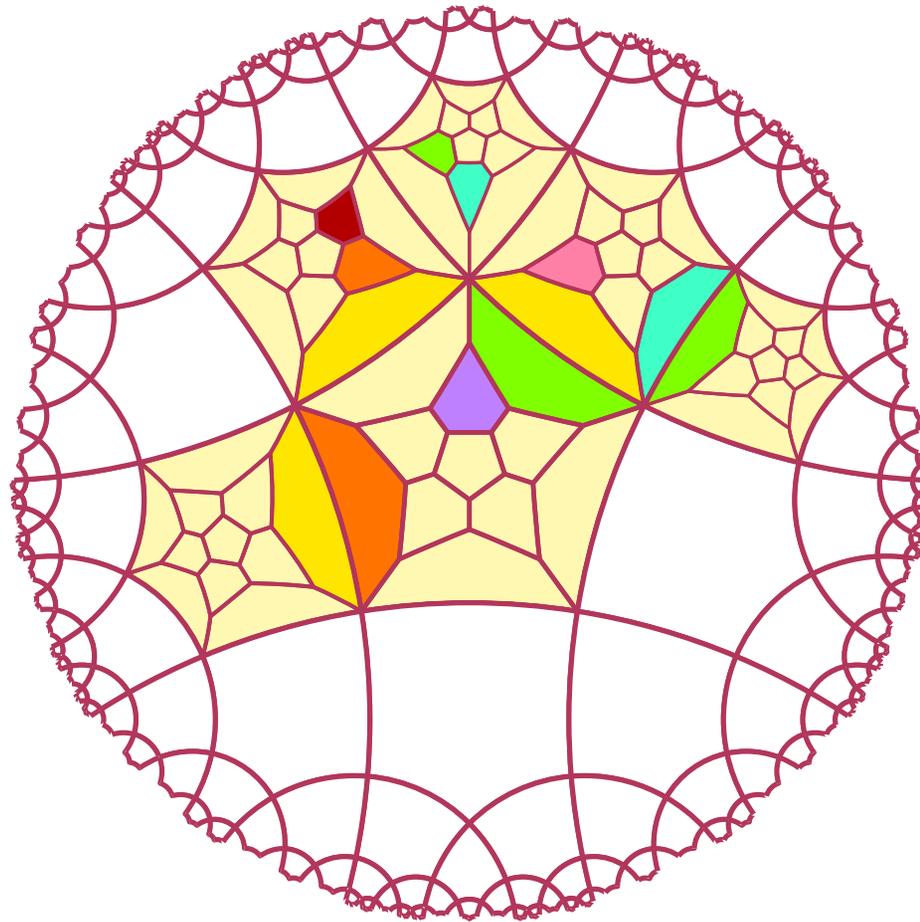
flip-flop switches

memory switches

**our implementation:**

representations by a

**special projection**

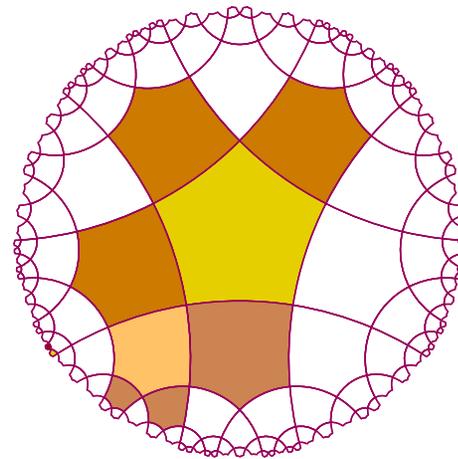


# our implementation: tracks

the idea:

milestones look  
like catenaries

same basis for  
the return track  
which is on the  
other half-space



## our implementation:

### tracks

two kinds of tracks  
to implement the circuit:

*vertical* and *horizontal* tracks

### verticals:

they follow branches of a tree

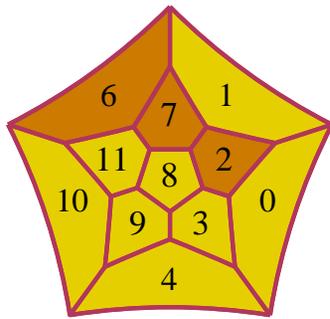
### horizontals:

they follow levels of a tree

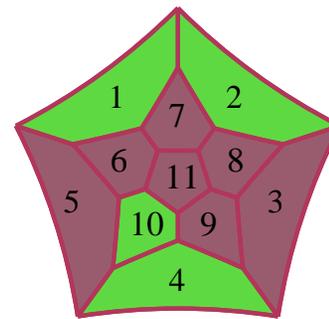
# our implementation:

## tracks

this induces two kinds of elements for the tracks:

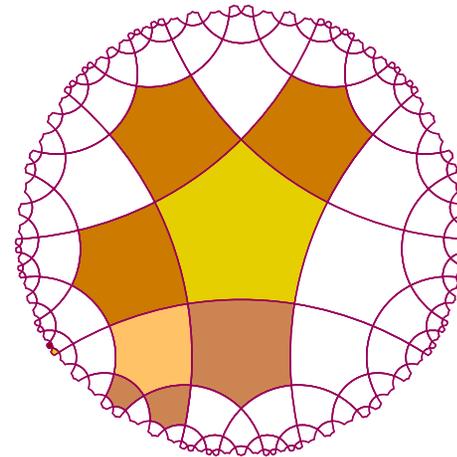
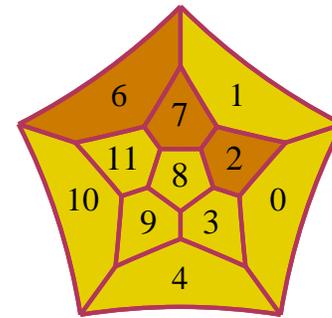
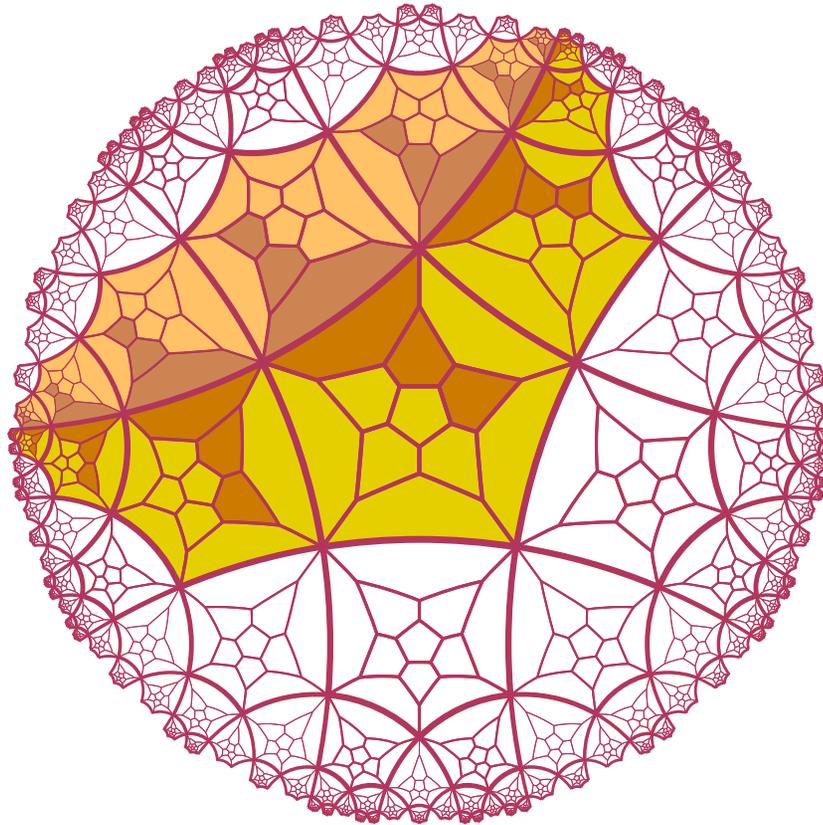


straight element

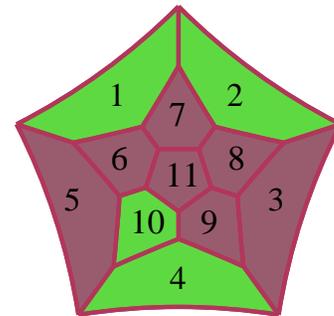
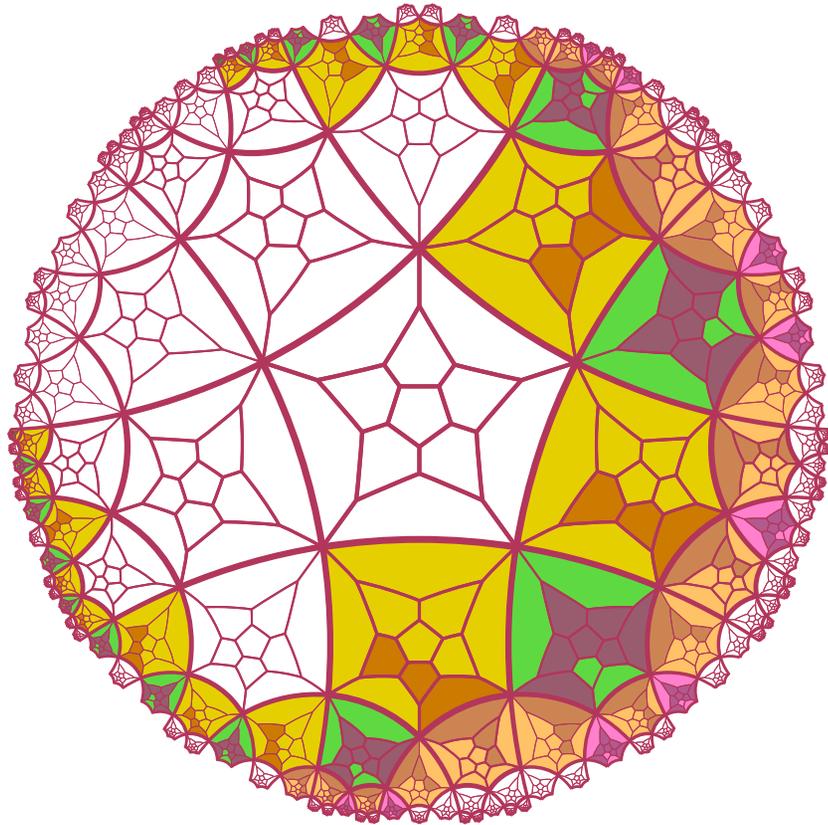


corner

# vertical tracks



# horizontal tracks



**our implementation:**

**bridges**

they replace crossings

we may assume the meeting of  
two vertical segments

one segment is unchanged

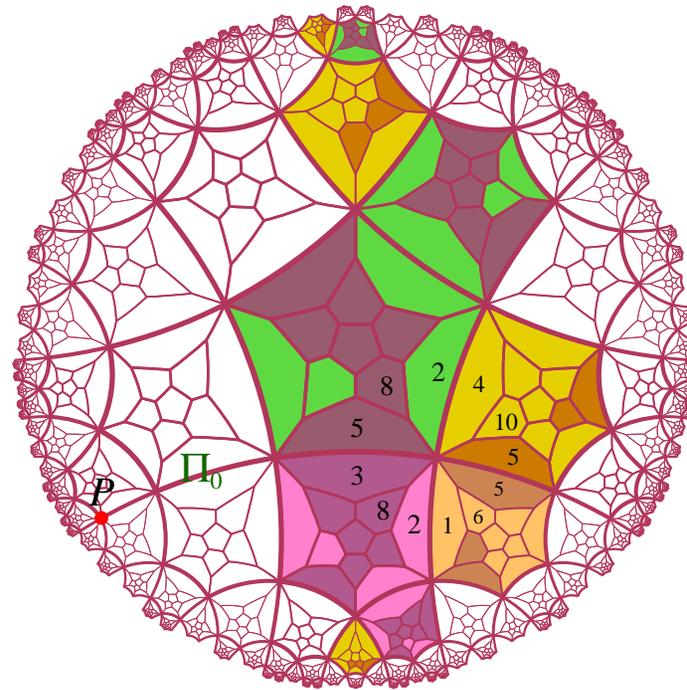
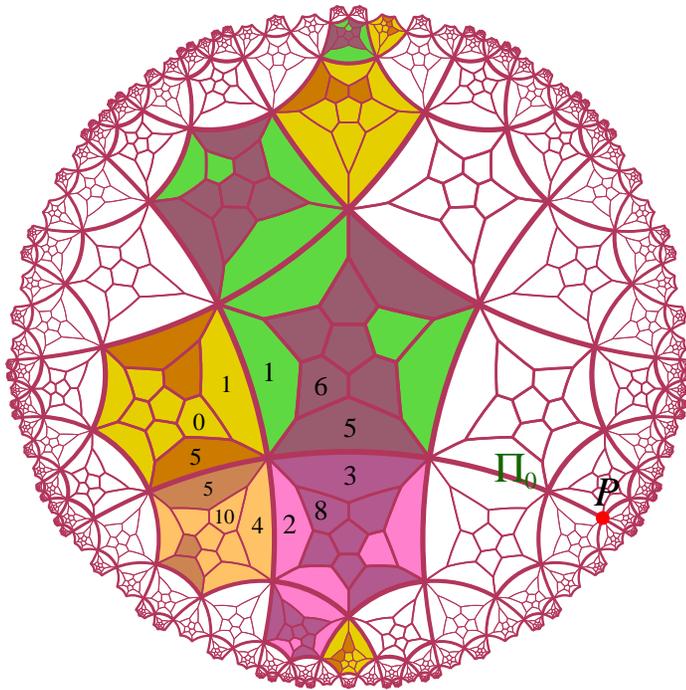
the other makes use of two bridges:

    a bridge for one way

    the symmetric one for the  
    return track

# bridges

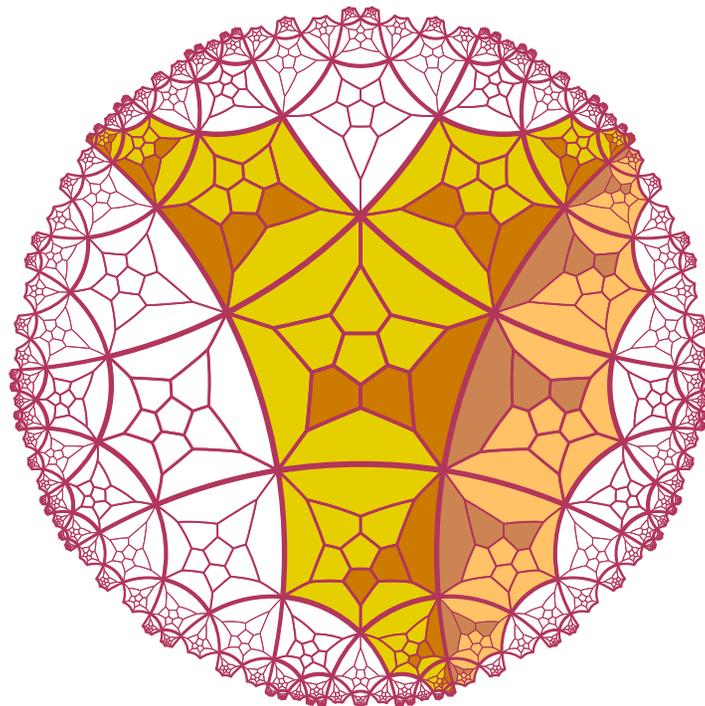
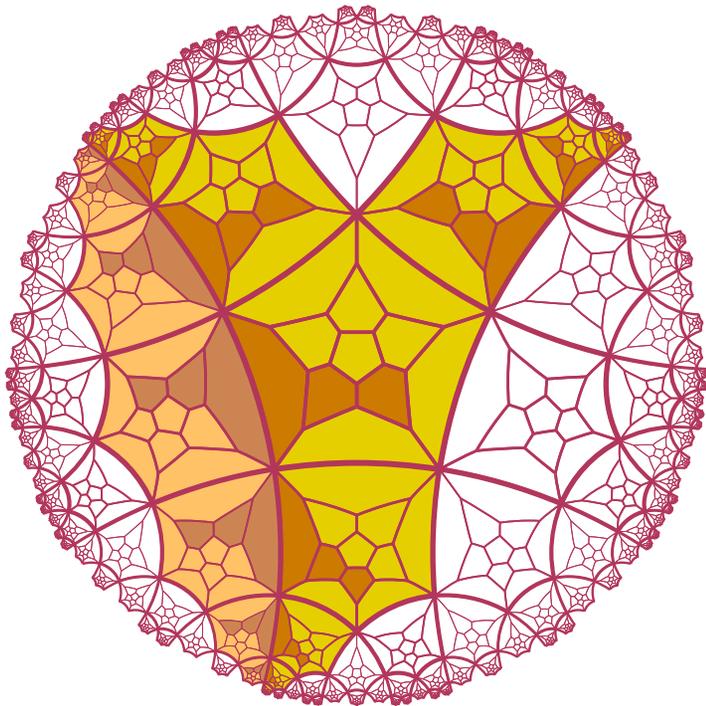
illustration of their ends



**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

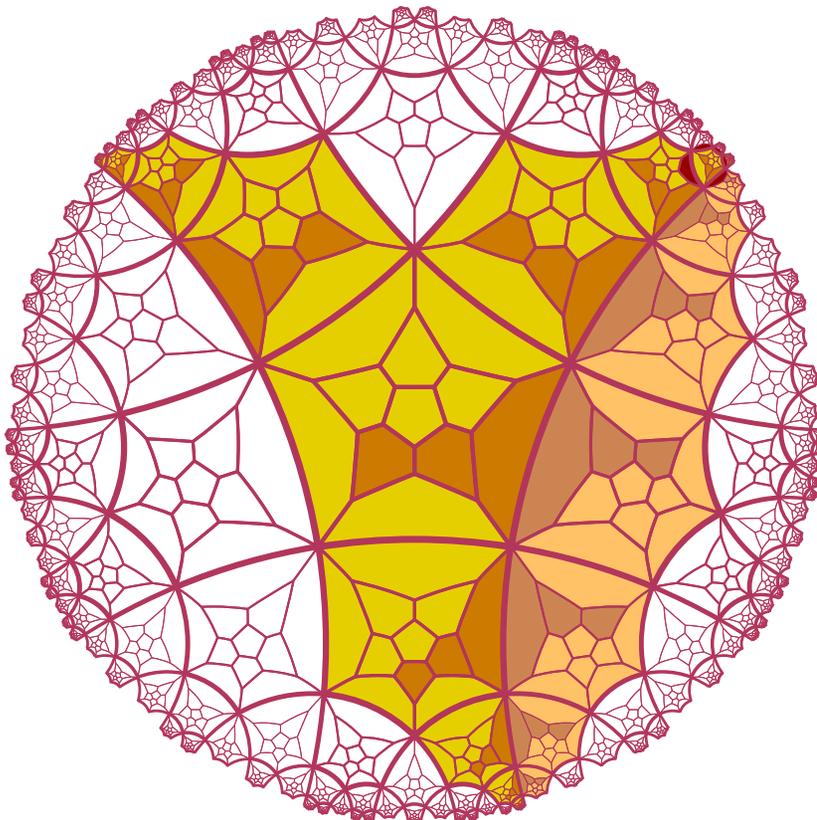
implemented with straight  
elements only



**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

motion of the particle, selected track:

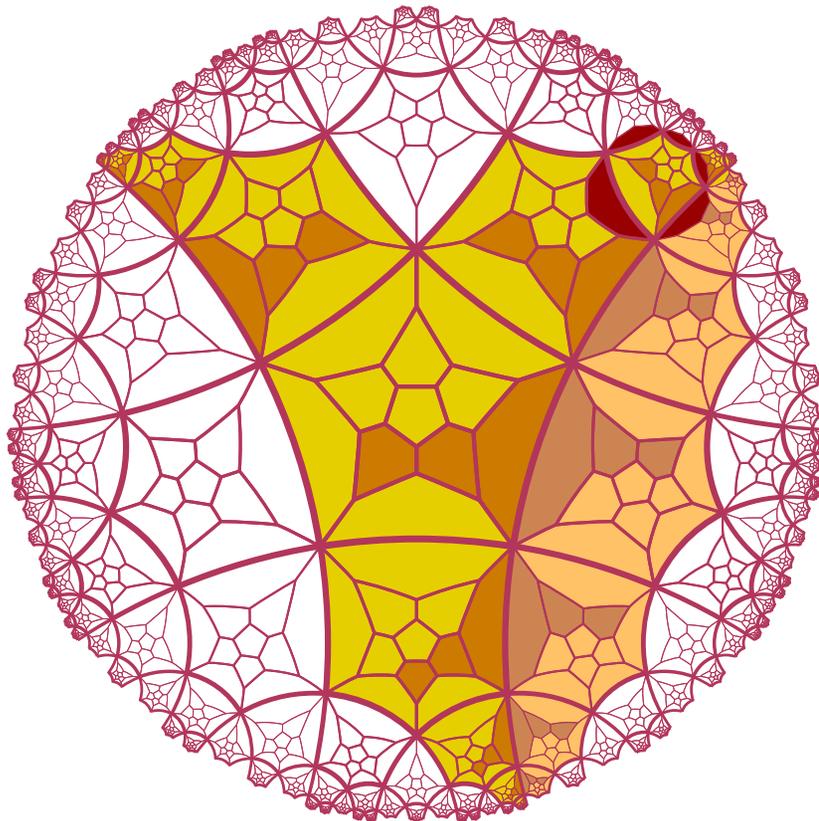


time 1

**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

motion of the particle:

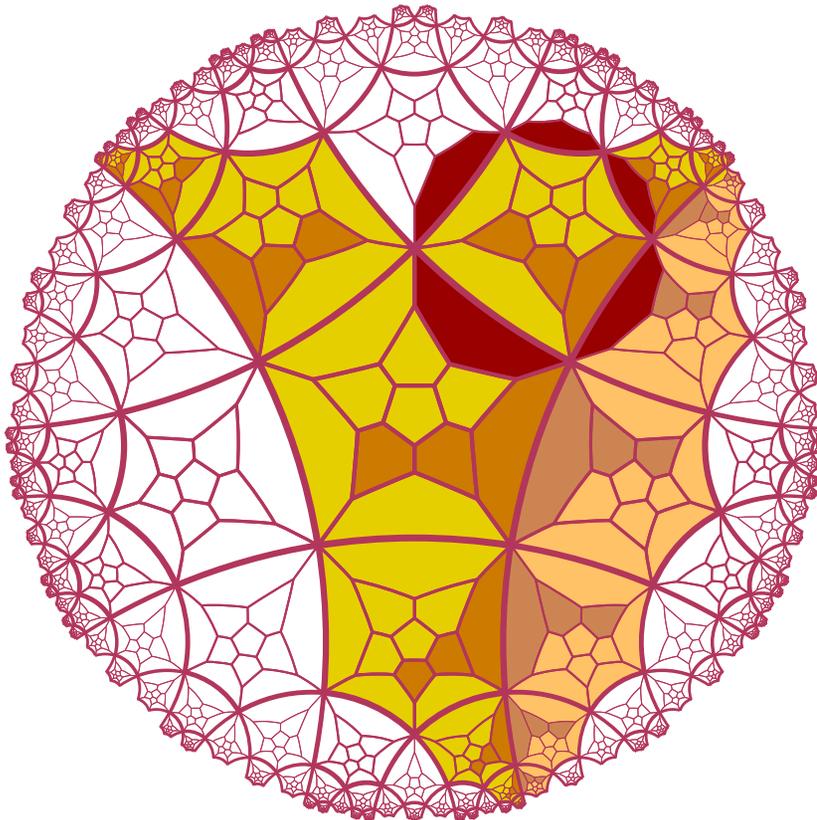


time 2

**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

motion of the particle:

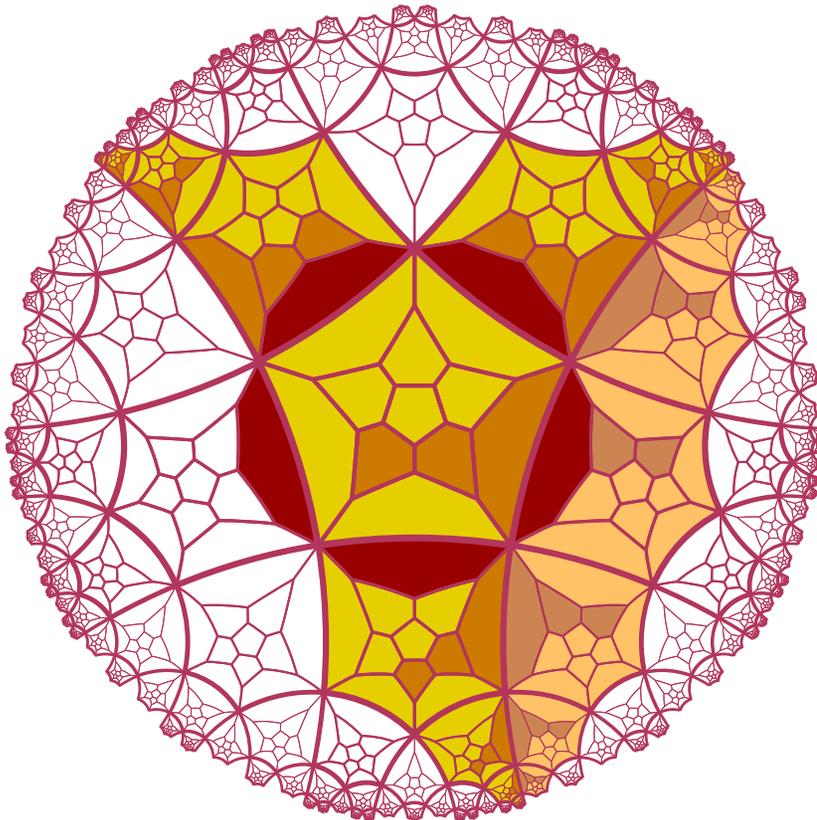


time 3

**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

motion of the particle:

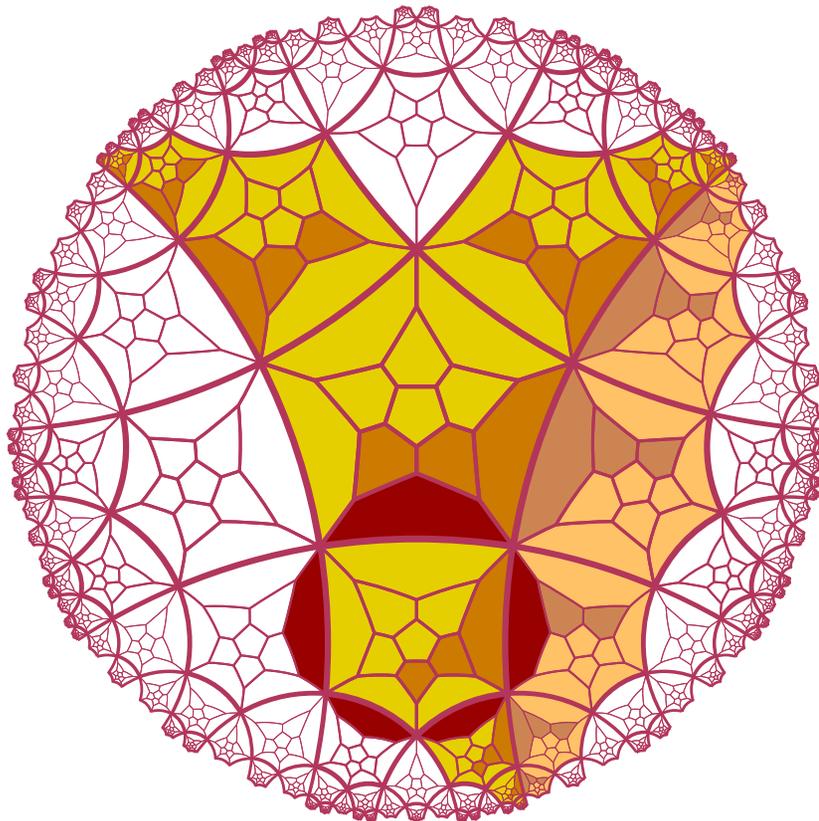


time 4

**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

motion of the particle:

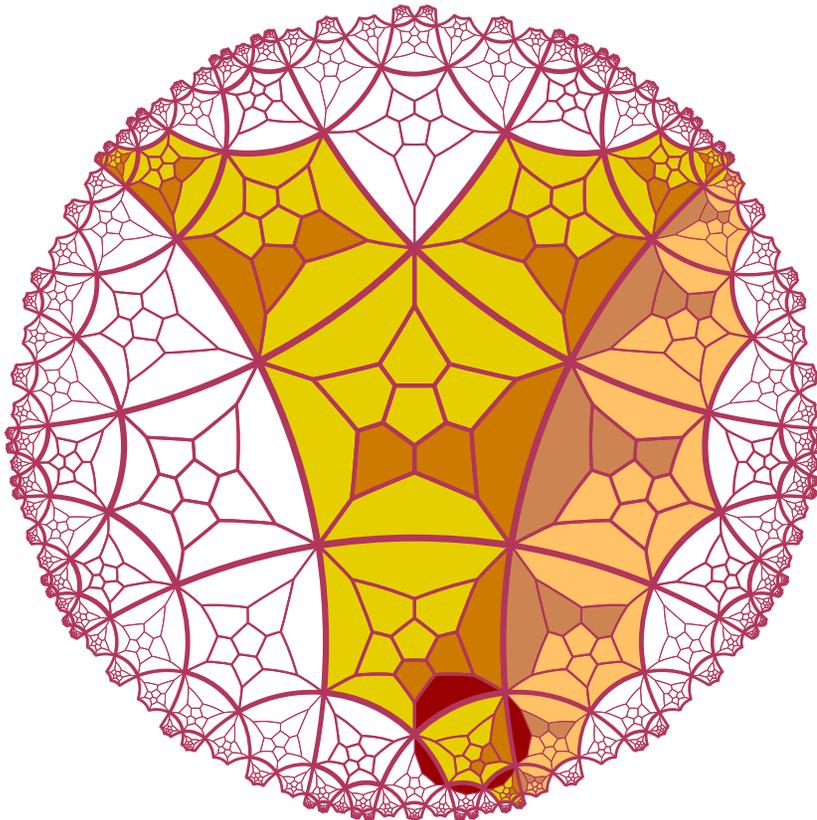


time 5

**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

motion of the particle:

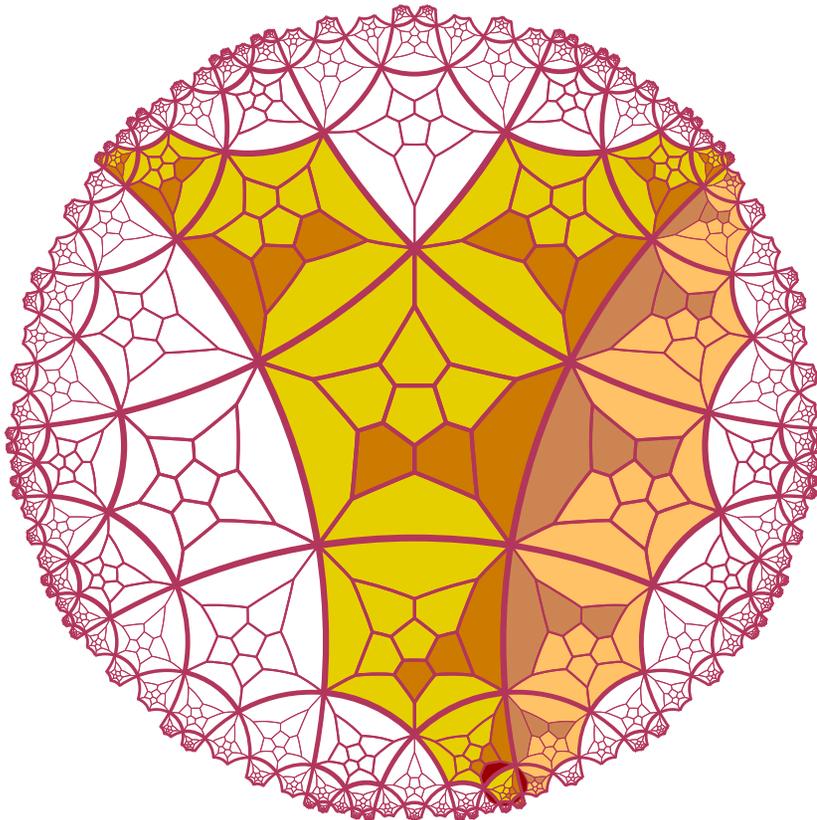


time 6

**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

motion of the particle:

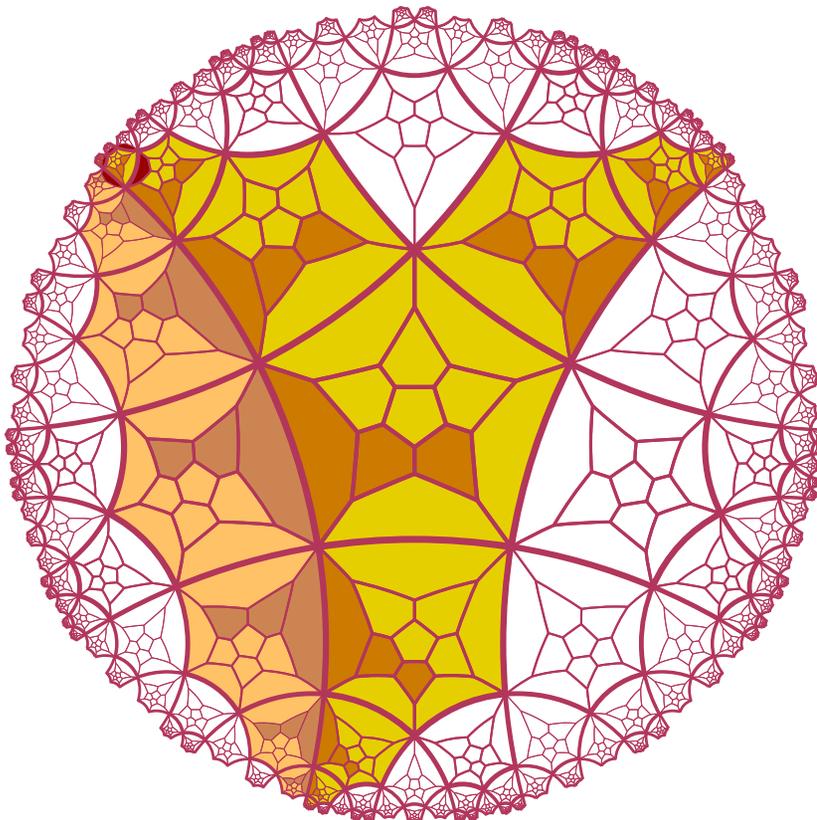


time 7

**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

motion from the non selected track:

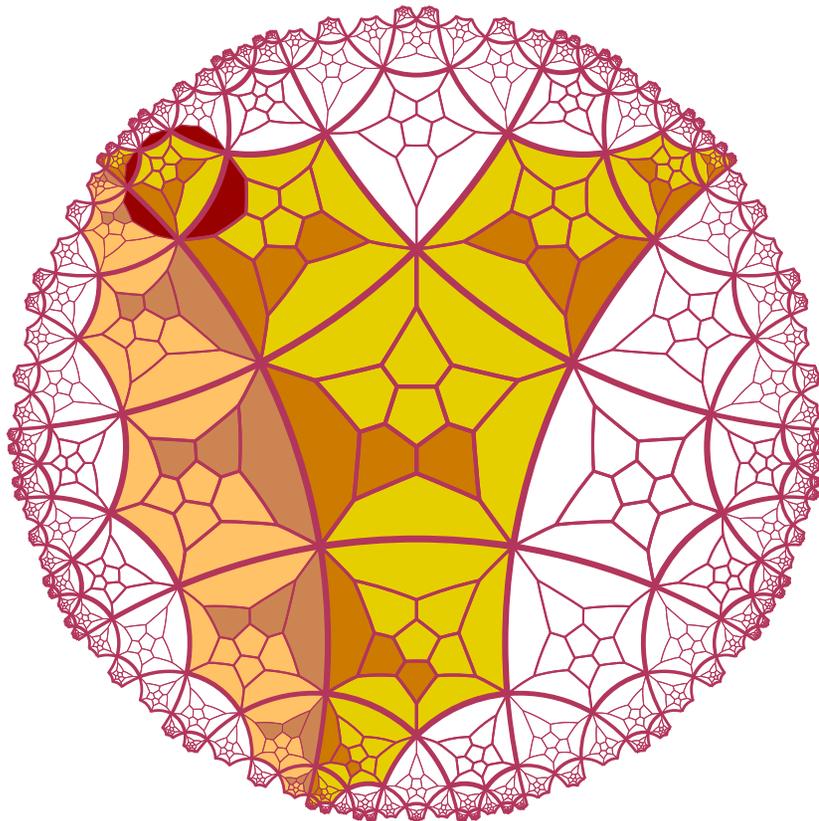


time 1

**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

motion of the particle:

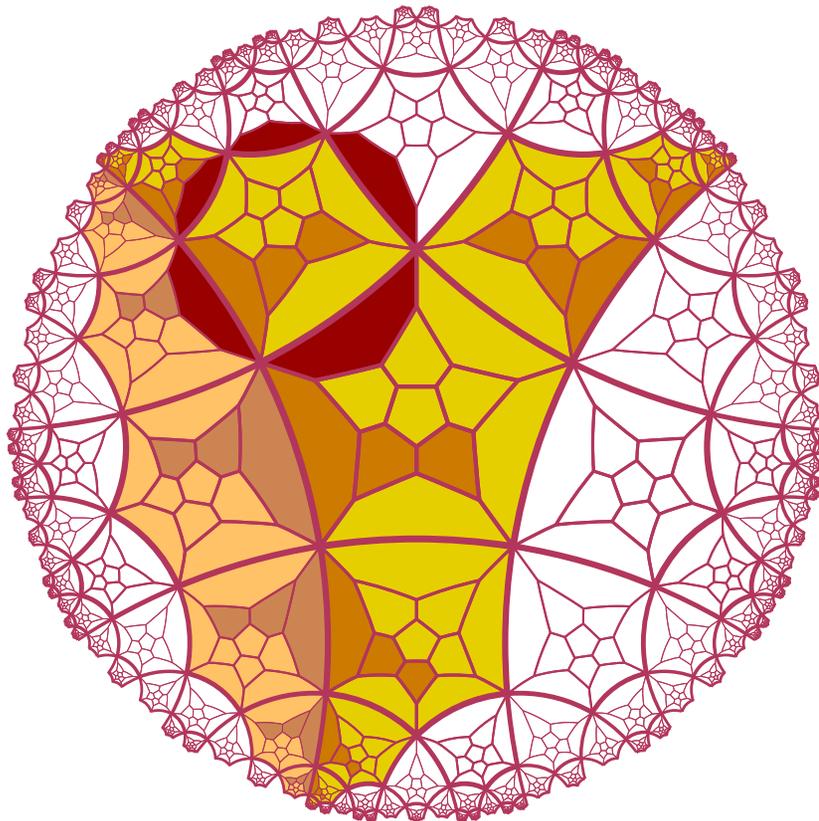


time 2

**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

motion of the particle:

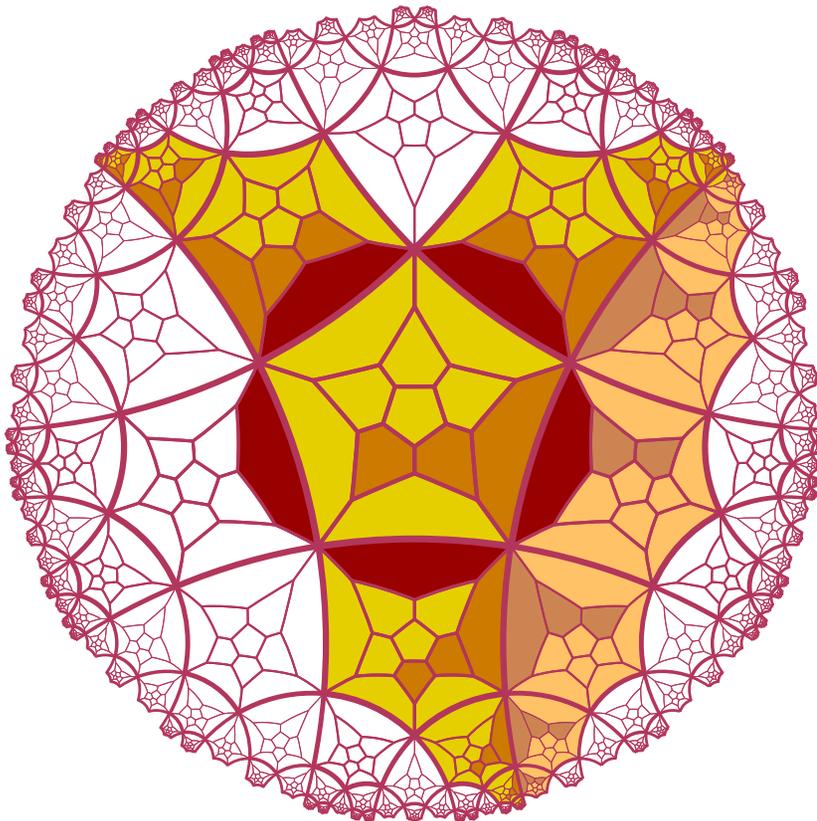


time 3

**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

motion of the particle:

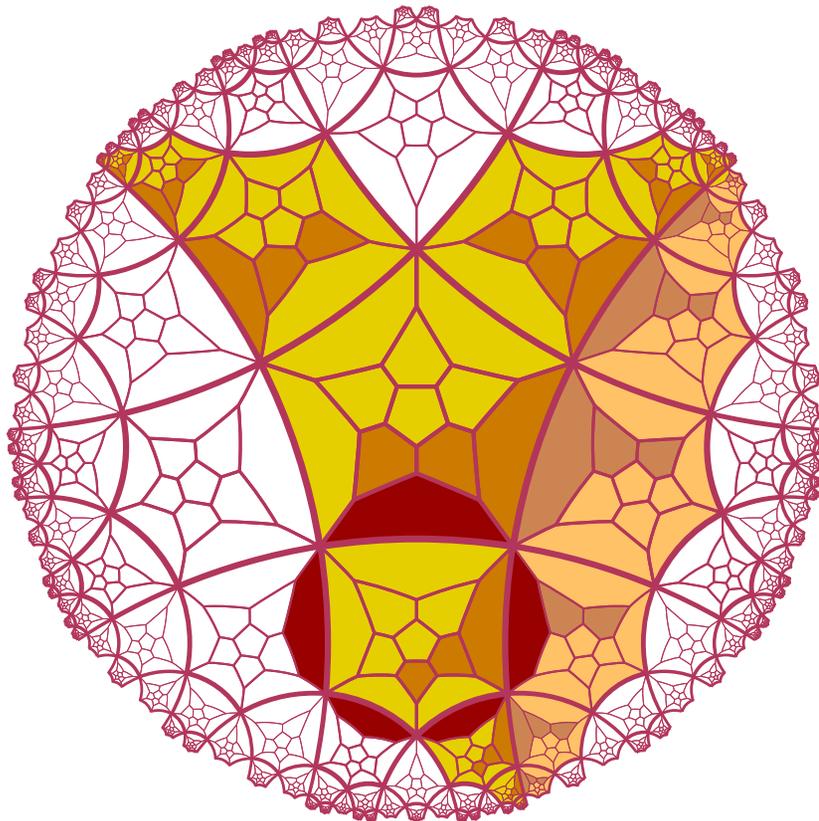


time 4

**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

motion of the particle:

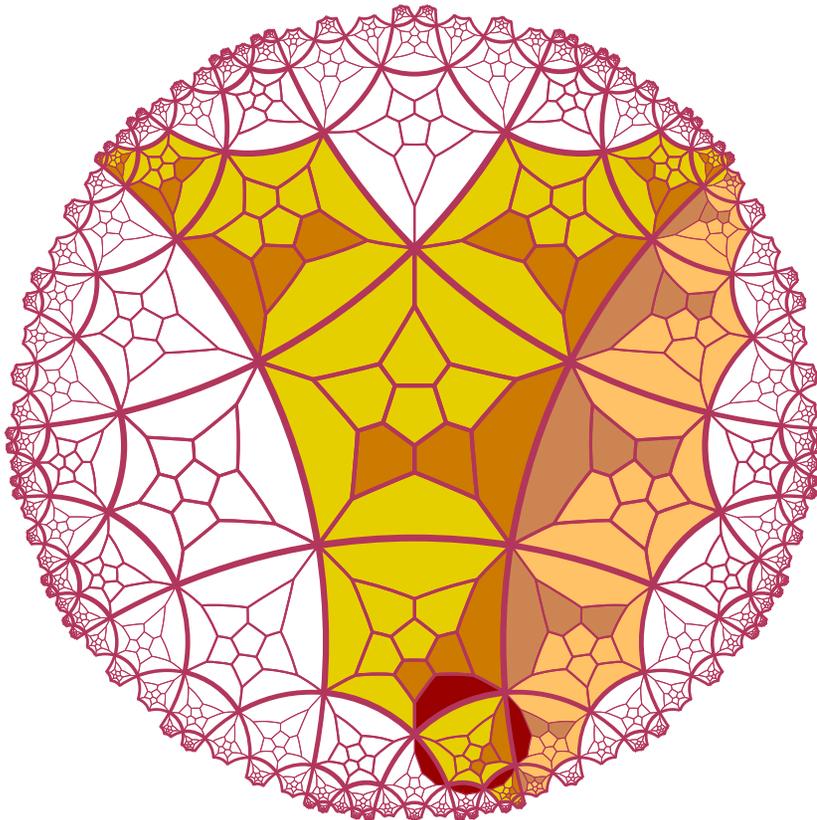


time 5

**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

motion of the particle:

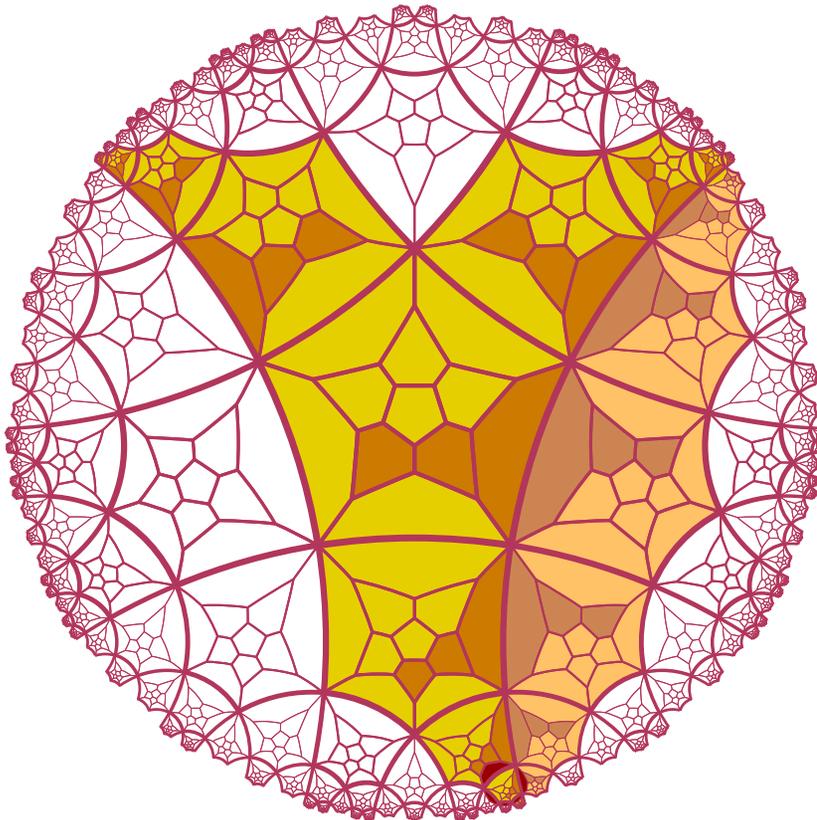


time 6

**our implementation:**

**fixed switches**

motion of the particle:

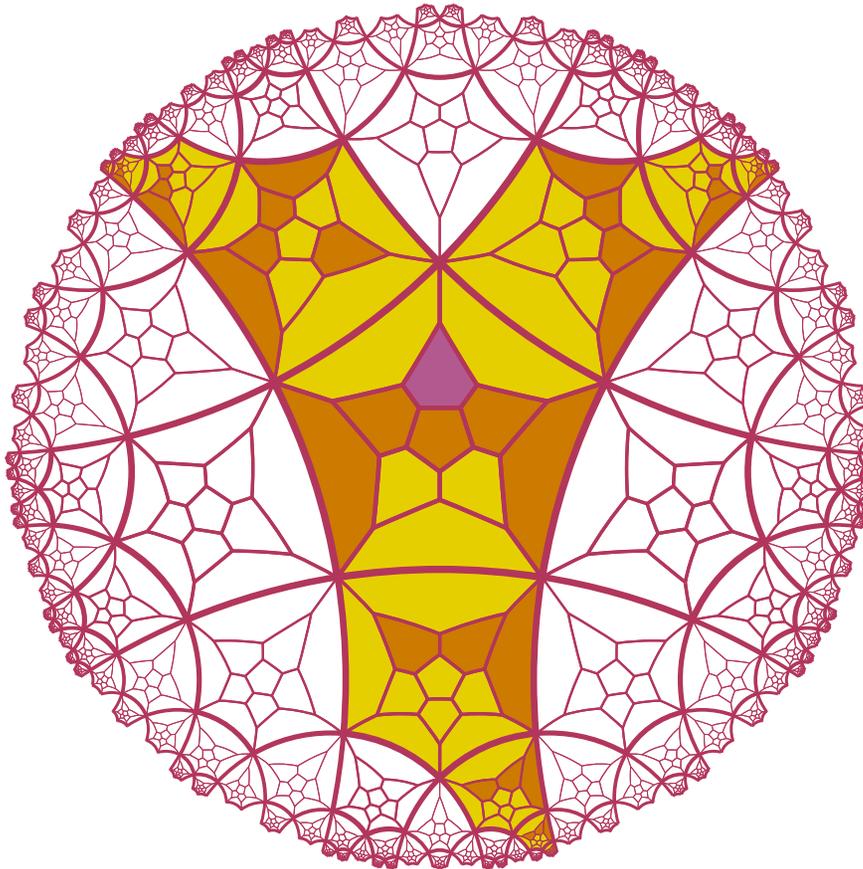


time 7

**our implementation:**

**flip-flop switches**

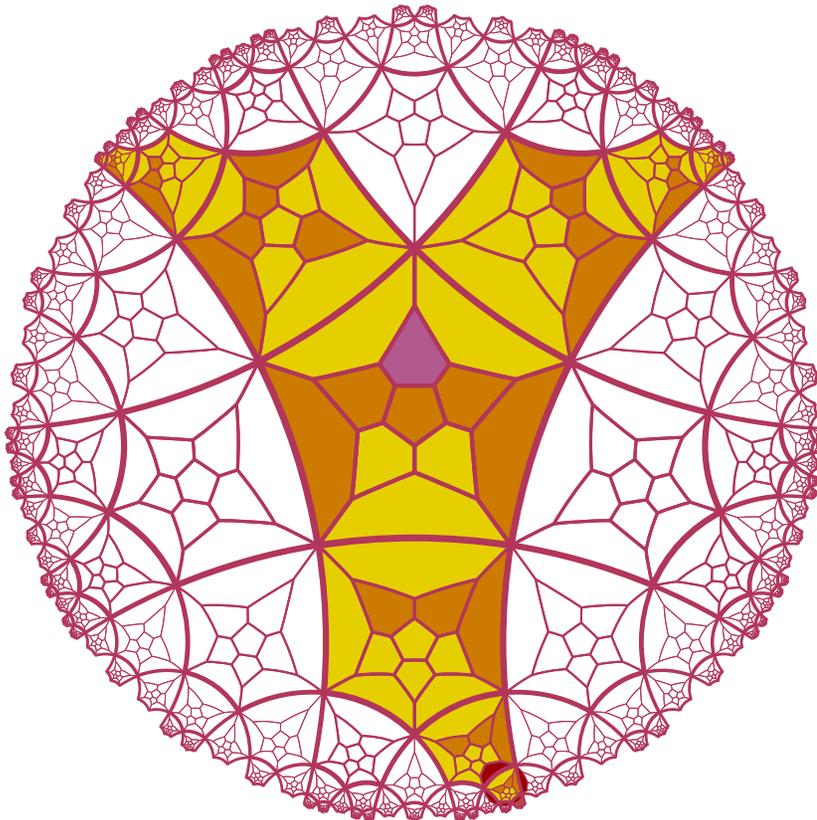
again, implemented with straight  
elements only



**our implementation:**

**flip-flop switches**

motion of the particle:

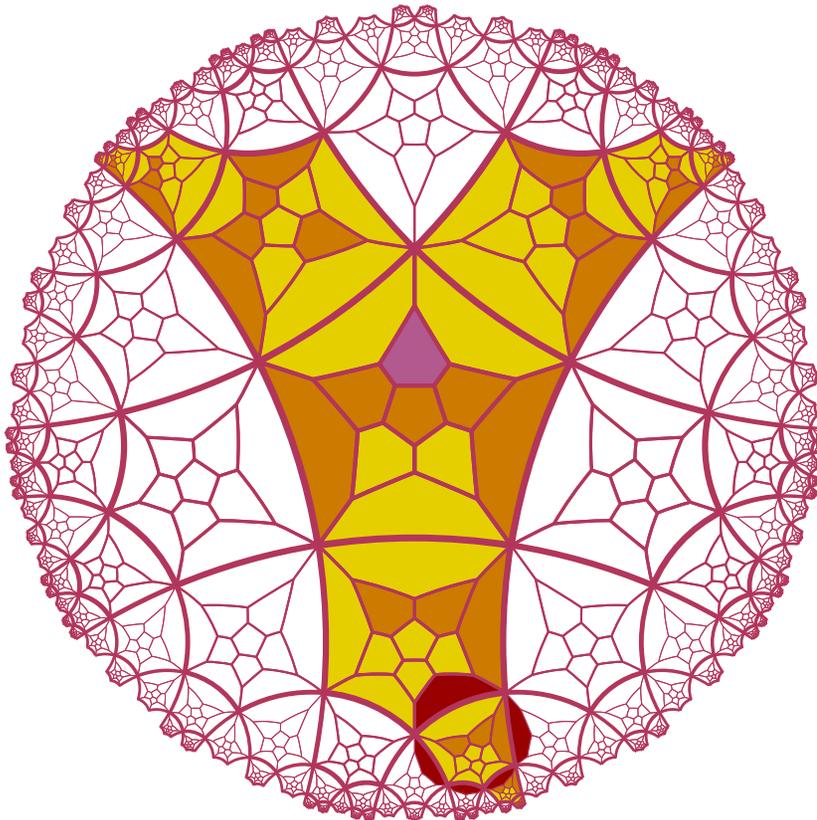


time 1

**our implementation:**

**flip-flop switches**

motion of the particle:

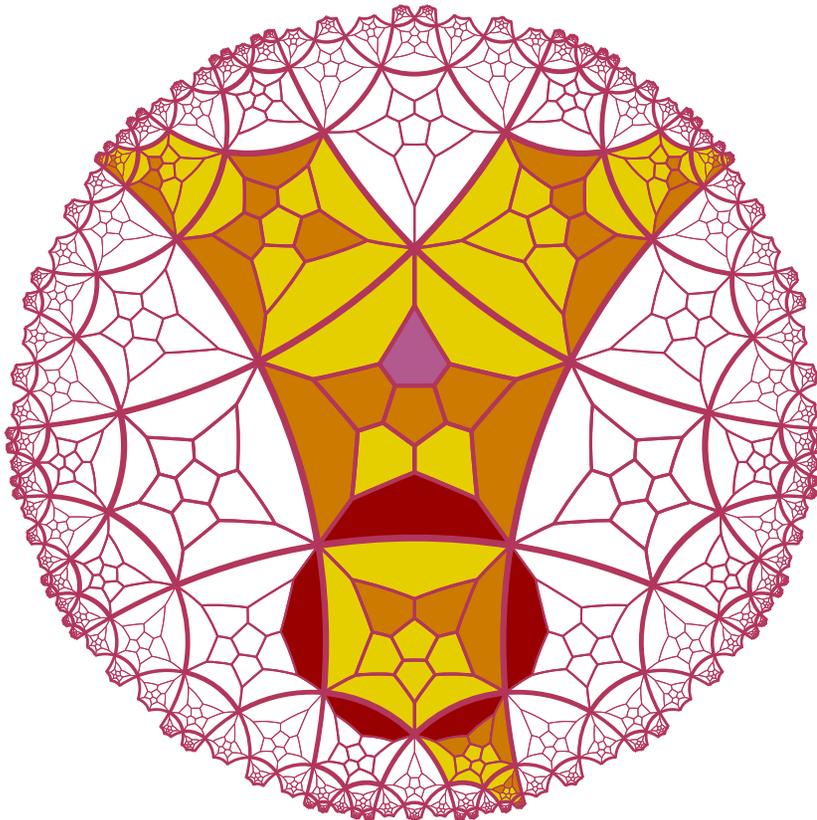


time 2

**our implementation:**

**flip-flop switches**

motion of the particle:

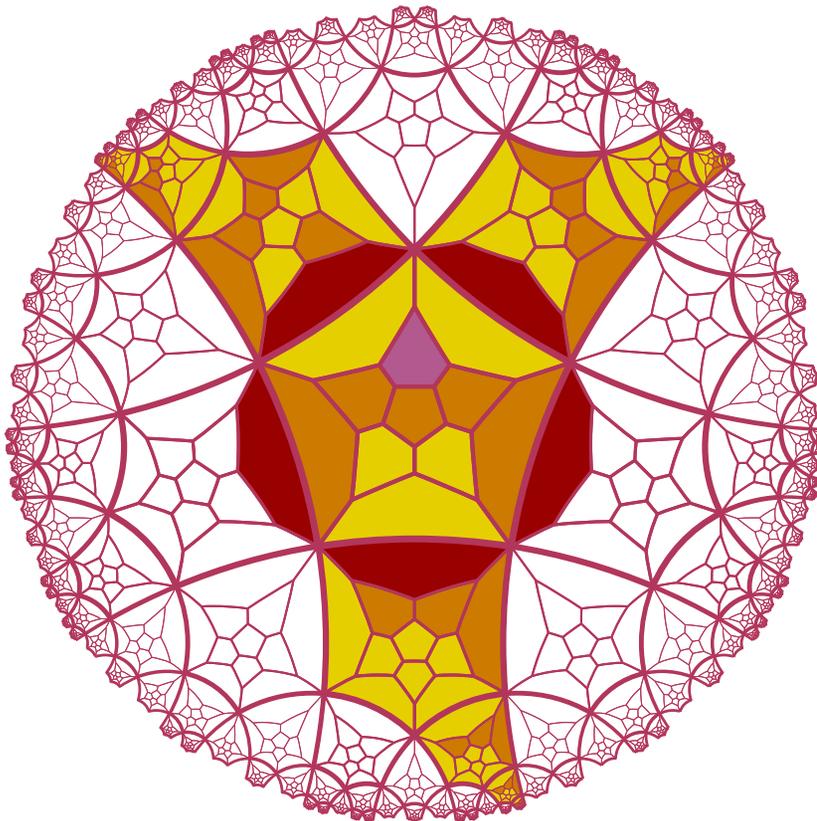


time 3

**our implementation:**

**flip-flop switches**

motion of the particle:

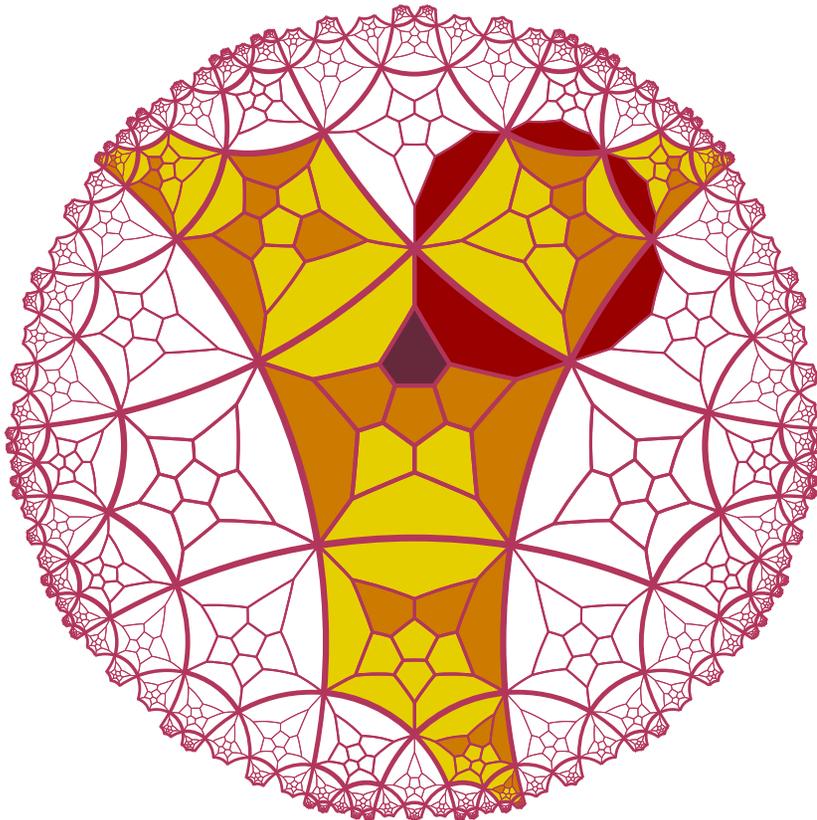


time 4

**our implementation:**

**flip-flop switches**

motion of the particle:

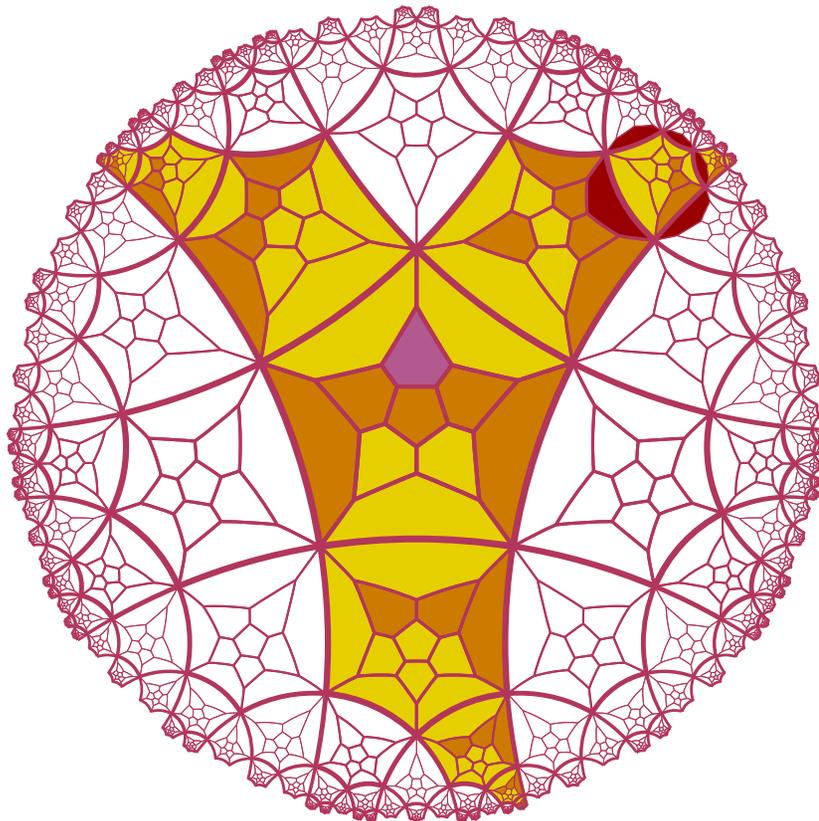


time 5

**our implementation:**

**flip-flop switches**

motion of the particle:

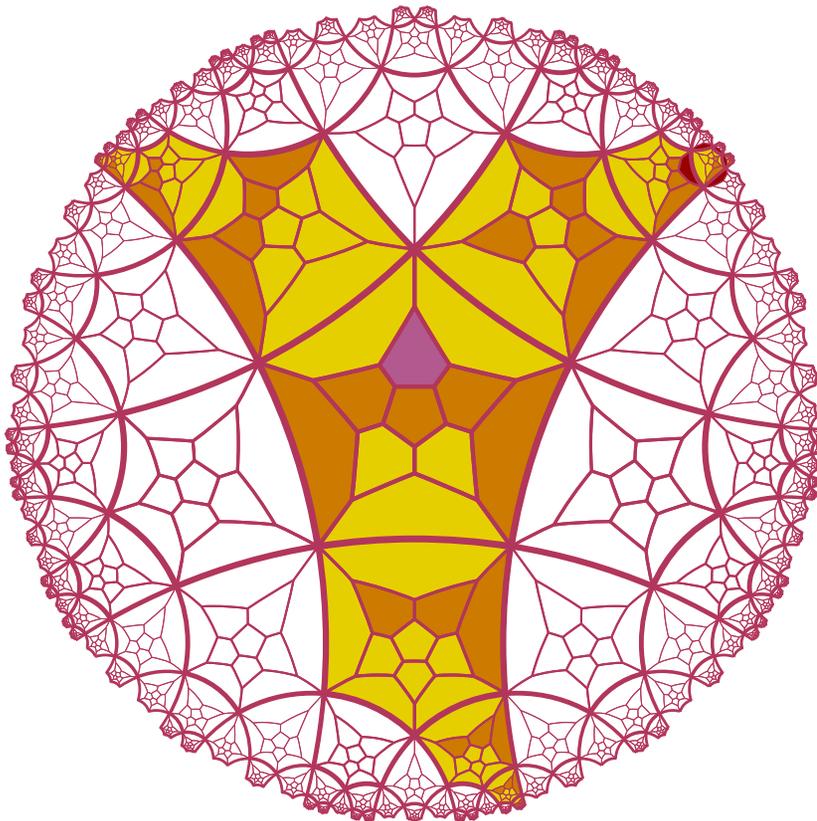


time 6

**our implementation:**

**flip-flop switches**

motion of the particle:



time 7

**our implementation:**

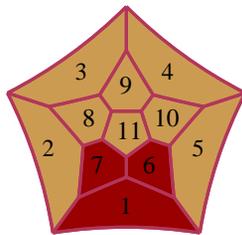
**flip-flop switches**

of course, if the particle comes again, the flip-flop will switch to the other position

our implementation:

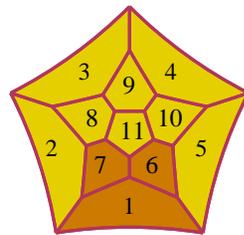
flip-flop switches

the controller and the sensors:



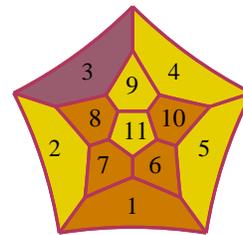
cell 11

sensor  
left



cell 12

sensor  
right



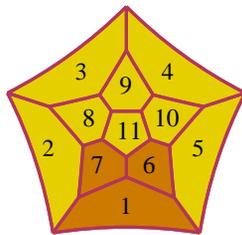
cell 13

controller

our implementation:

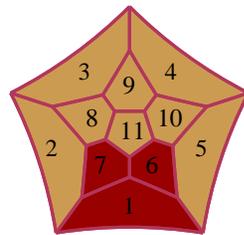
flip-flop switches

the controller and the sensors:



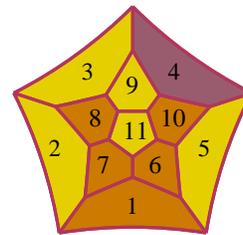
cell 11

sensor  
left



cell 12

sensor  
right



cell 13

controller

**our implementation:**

**memory switches**

this time, both types of switches:  
a passive one and an active one

but both are connected

the 'passive' switch is somehow  
**active**

the 'active' switch is somehow  
**passive**

our implementation:

memory switches

indeed:

for the **passive memory switch**:

when the particle comes from  
the **non-selected** track,

this triggers a change in the  
**active** memory switch

our implementation:

memory switches

for the **active memory switch**:

when the particle crosses it,

there is **no change** in the switch,

a change occurs only when an appropriate signal is sent by the **passive** memory switch

below we detail:

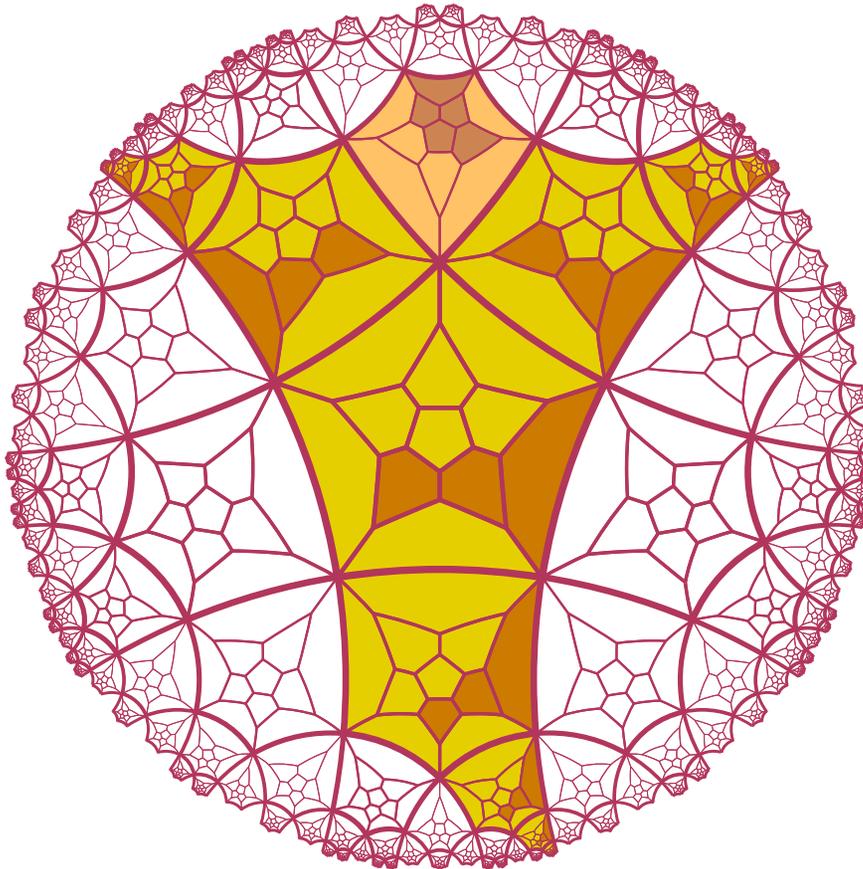
crossing a passive memory switch

the signal to the active switch

**our implementation:**

**passive memory switches**

again, implemented with straight  
elements only



**our implementation:**

**passive memory switches**

here, note a new element,

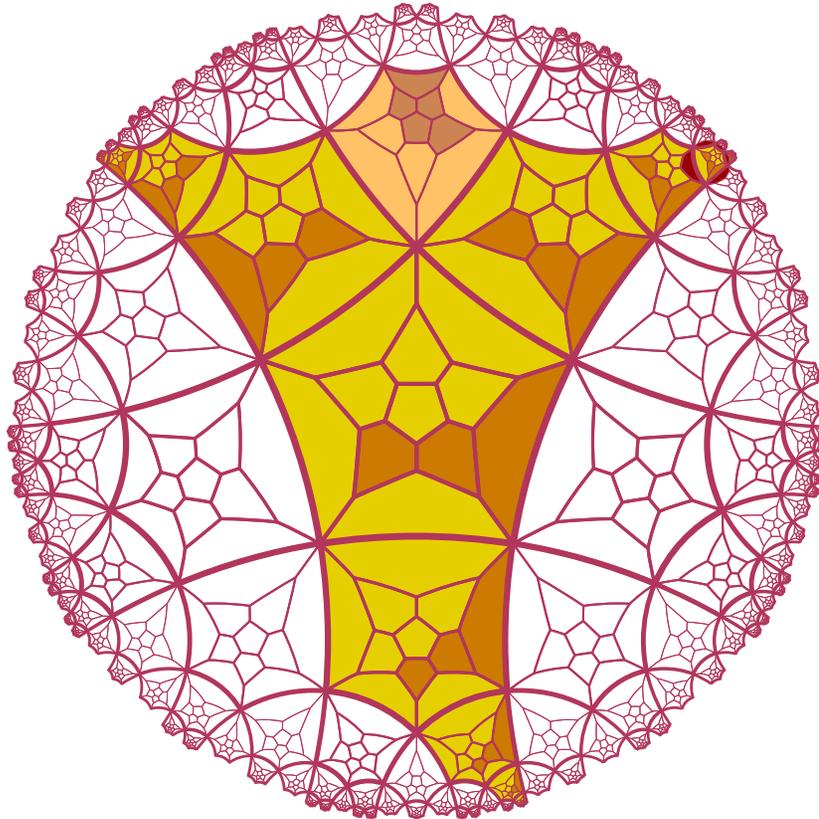
the **passive controller**

it detects whether the particle  
arrives through the non-selected track

**our implementation:**

**passive memory switches**

motion of the particle:

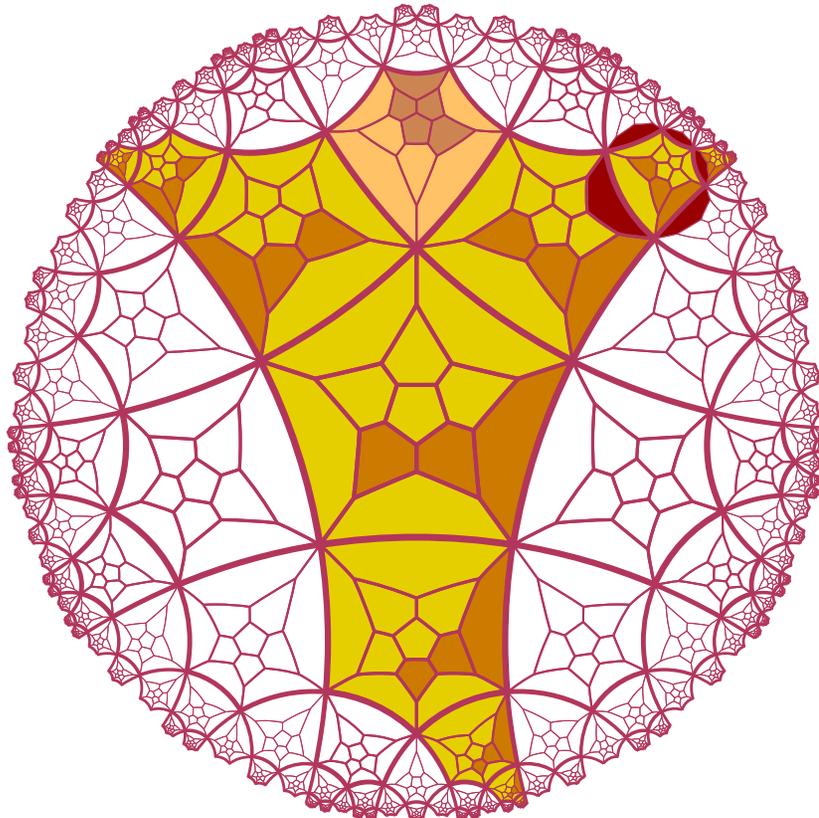


time 1

**our implementation:**

**passive memory switches**

motion of the particle:

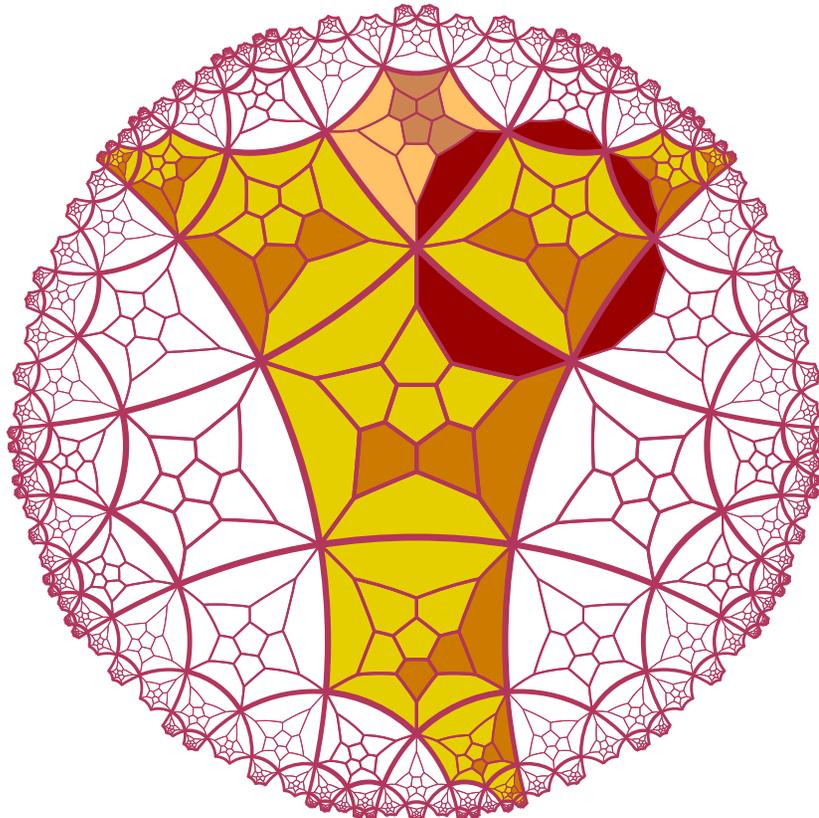


time 2

**our implementation:**

**passive memory switches**

motion of the particle:

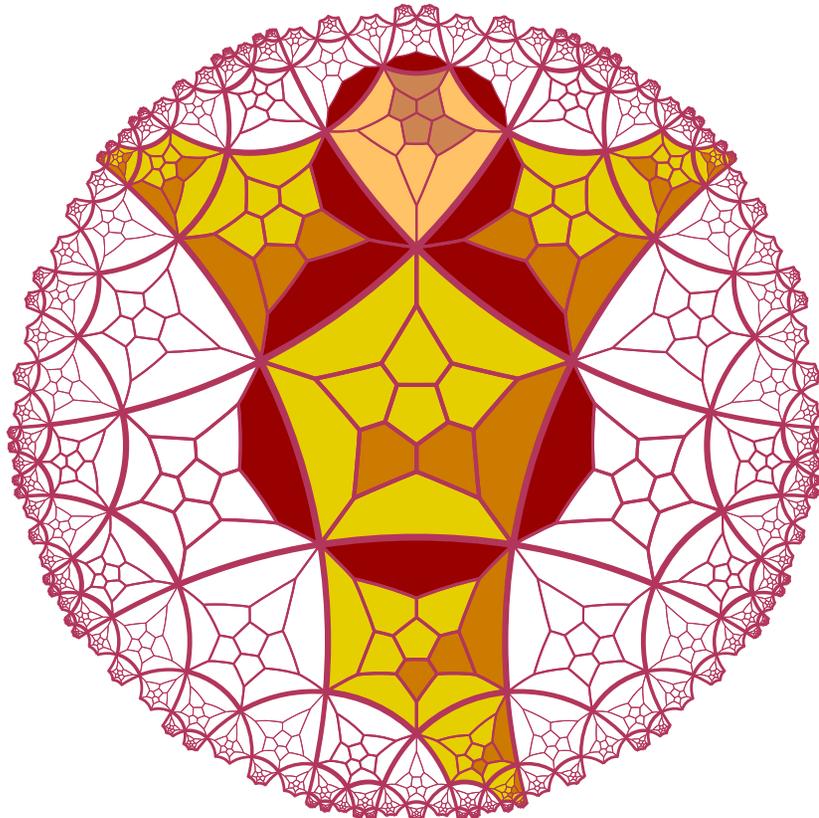


time 3

**our implementation:**

**passive memory switches**

motion of the particle:

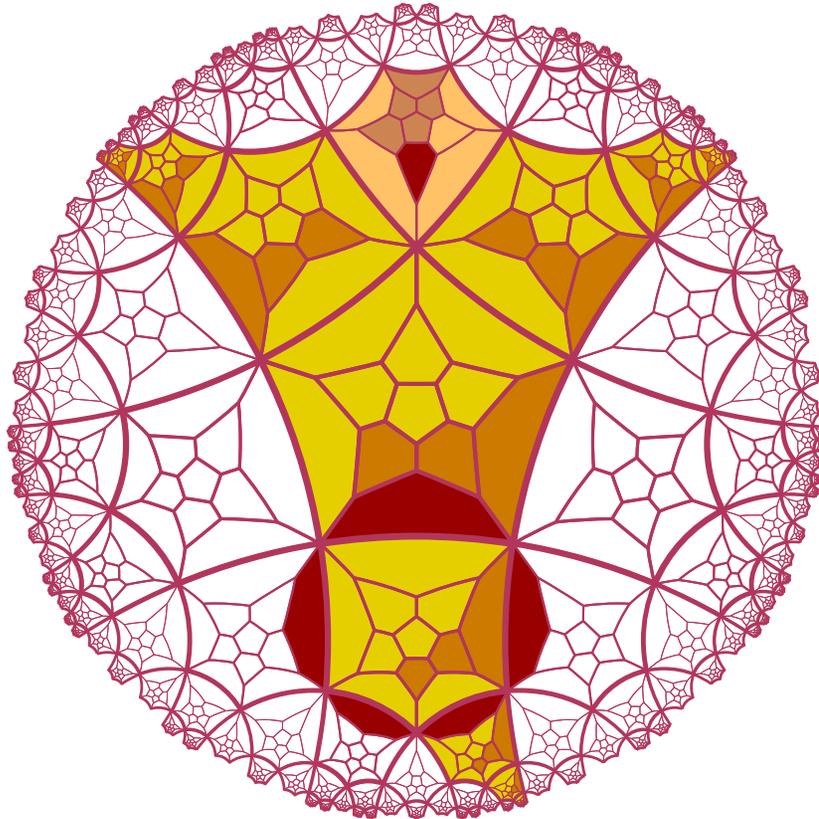


time 4

**our implementation:**

**passive memory switches**

motion of the particle:

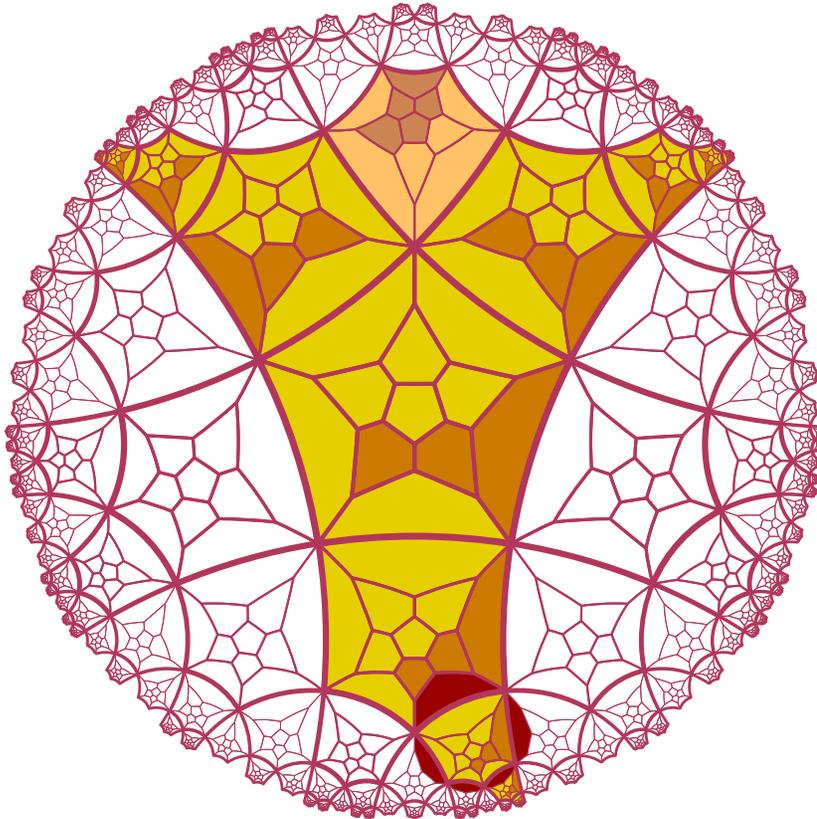


time 5

**our implementation:**

**passive memory switches**

motion of the particle:

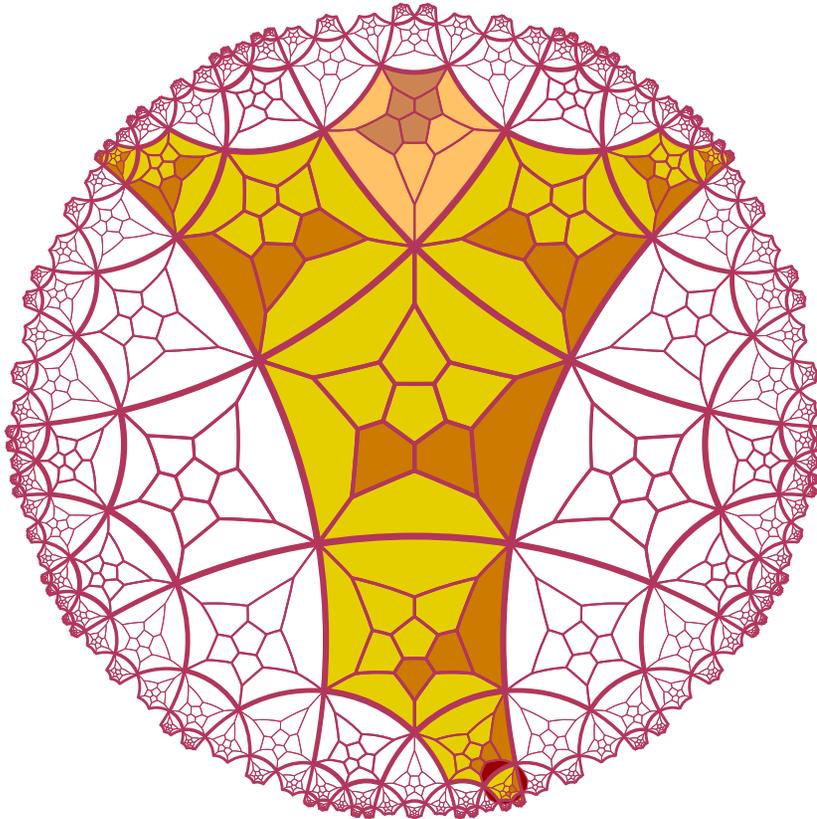


time 6

**our implementation:**

**passive memory switches**

motion of the particle:

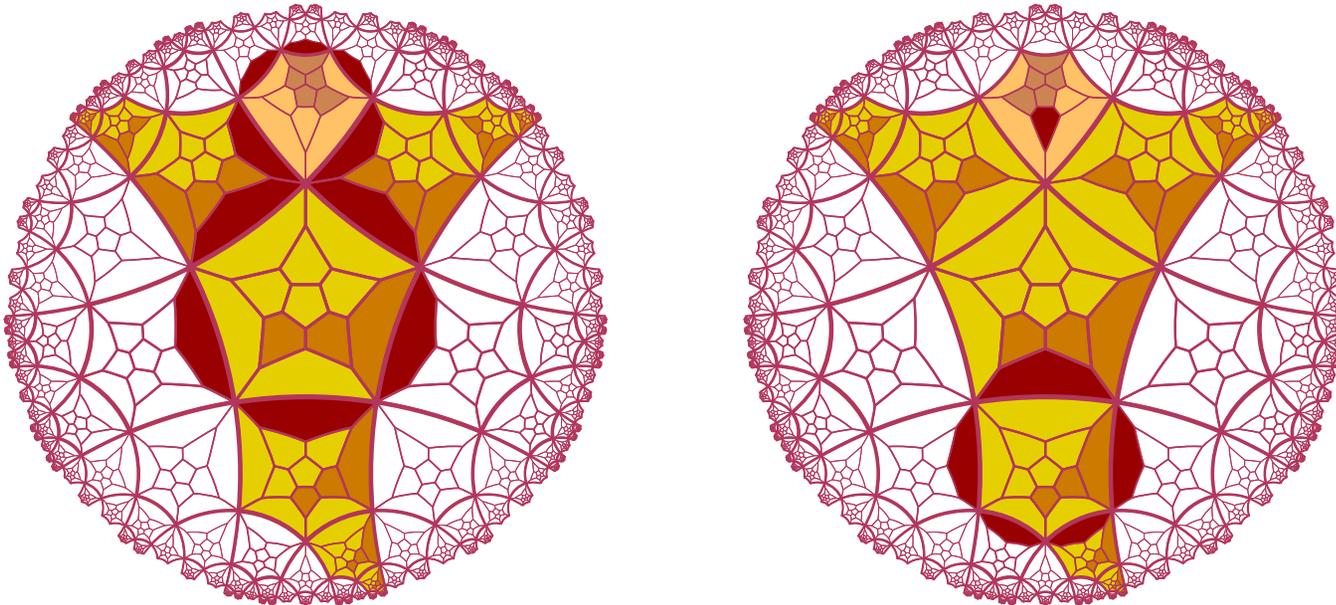


time 7

**our implementation:**

**passive memory switches**

note the change at times 4 and 5:



change of selection and a signal sent to the active controller

## our implementation:

the **signal** from a **passive** memory switch to the **active** one

take two non-secant planes,  
 $\Pi^p$  and  $\Pi^a$

the passive switch on  $\Pi_p$ ,

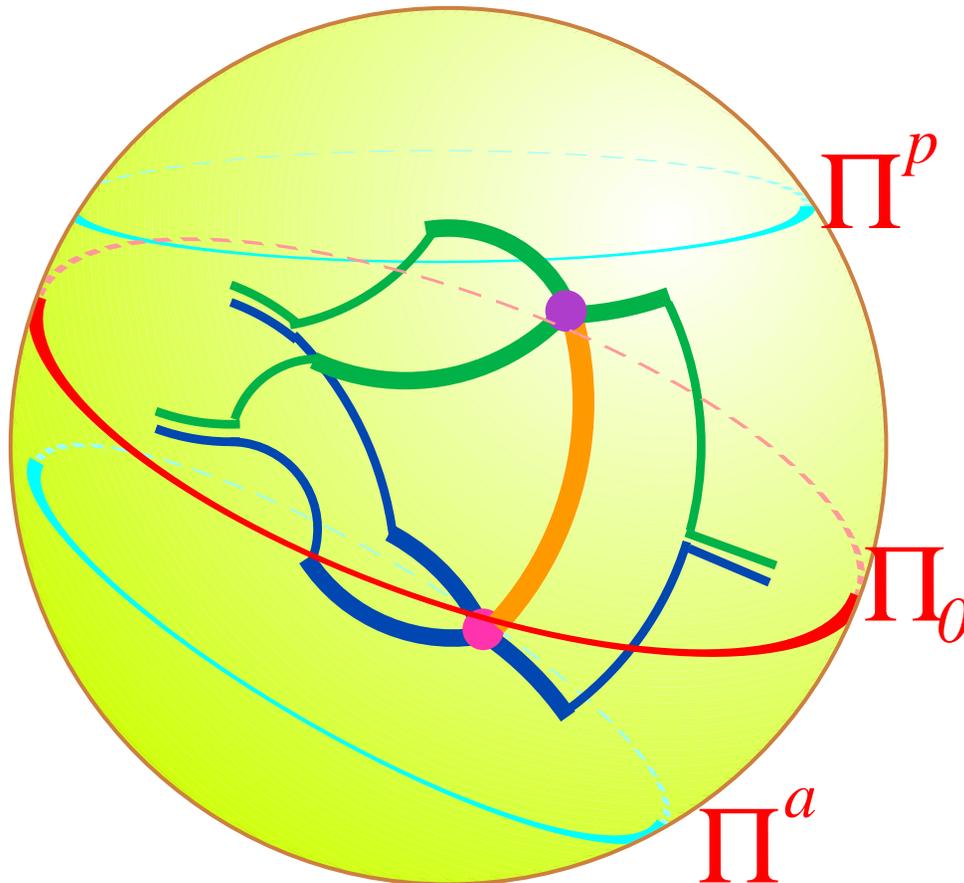
the active one on  $\Pi^a$ ,

the switches facing each other  
through  $\Pi_0$ , the plane of  
reflection of  $\Pi^p$  onto  $\Pi^a$

## our implementation:

the **signal** from a **passive** memory switch to the **active** one

approximative illustration



## our implementation:

the **signal** from a **passive** memory switch to the **active** one

the tiling forces a more complex path from the passive controller to the active one

see *arXiv* paper for more details:

<http://arxiv.org/abs/1005.4826>

## conclusion

and so we proved:

**theorem** *there is a weakly universal cellular automaton on the dodecagrid with two states involving a truly spacial structure*

## conclusion

this result establishes the boundary between decidability and weak universality for cellular automata in the  $3D$  hyperbolic space

we remain with two questions:

what can be said for strong universality?

what can be said for the hyperbolic plane?

## conclusion

best result the hyperbolic plane  
for weak universality:

a CA in the heptagrid with four  
states (MM - 2009)

2 states also possible but with a  
linear structure (MM - 2009)

for strong universality, best re-  
sult in the hyperbolic plane:

a CA with 9 states, but a linear  
structure (MM - 2010)

**Thank you  
for your attention!**