

Moduli Space Maps and
Compactifications:
A Worked Out Example of Mating

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Pasting Together Julia Sets: A Worked Out Example of Mating

John Milnor

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2000 AMS Subject Classification: Primary 37F45; Secondary 30D05

Keywords: Julia set, Lattès map, fractal tiling

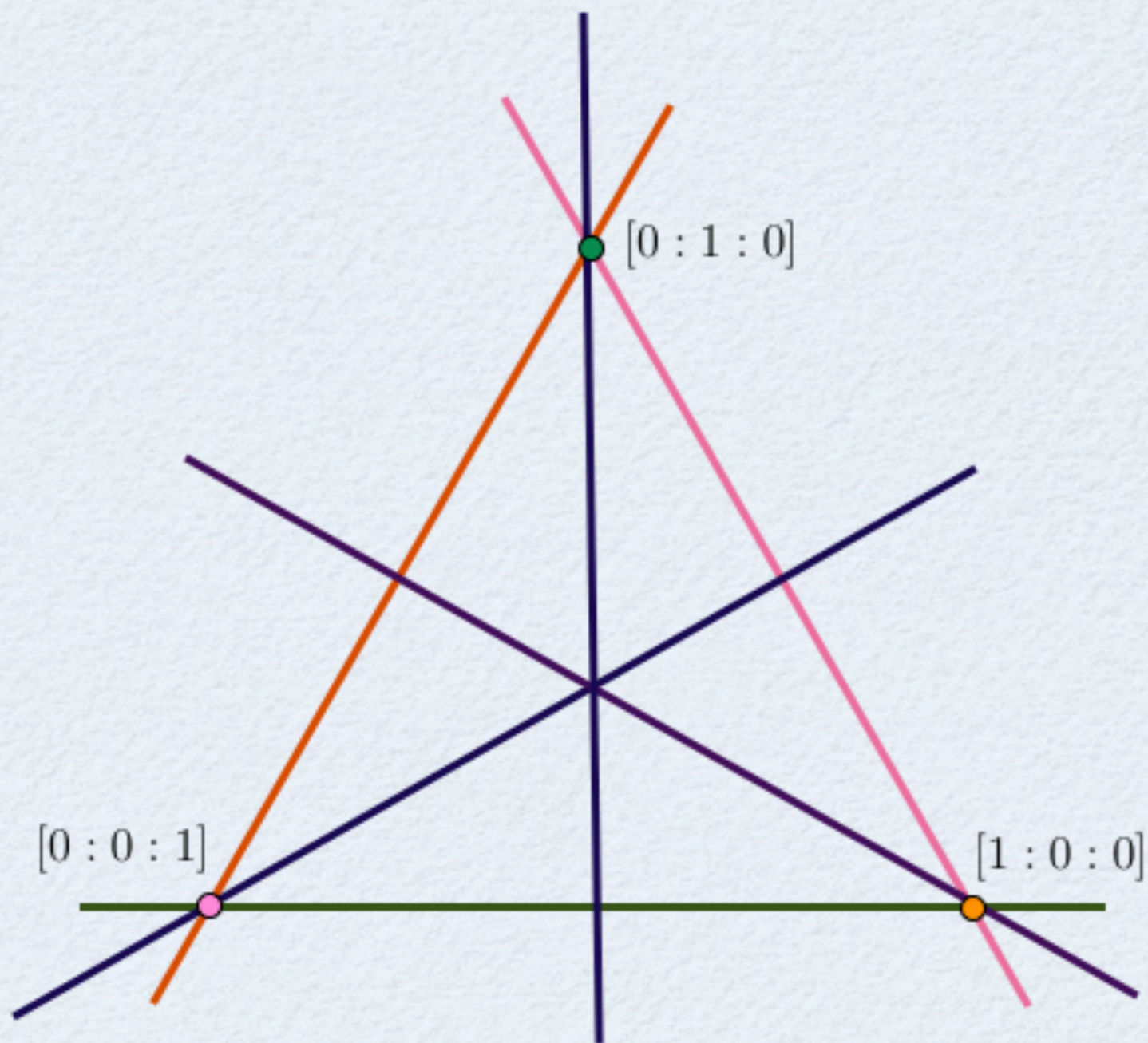
The operation of “mating” two suitable complex polynomial maps f_1 and f_2 constructs a new dynamical system by carefully pasting together the boundaries of their filled Julia sets so as to obtain a copy of the Riemann sphere, together with a rational map $f_1 \perp\!\!\!\perp f_2$ from this sphere to itself. This construction is particularly hard to visualize when the filled Julia sets $K(f_i)$ are dendrites, with no interior. This note will work out an explicit example of this type, with effectively computable maps from $K(f_1)$ and $K(f_2)$ onto the Riemann sphere.

1. INTRODUCTION

The operation of *mating*, first described by [Douady 83] has been shown to exist for suitable pairs of quadratic polynomial maps by [Tan Lei 90], [Rees 92], and [Shishikura 00]. (See Section 2.) In an attempt to understand this construction, this paper concentrates on one very special example. We consider the (filled) Julia set $K = K(f)$ which is illustrated in Figure 1 and described more precisely in Section 2. The mating $f \perp\!\!\!\perp f$ exists according to Shishikura. This means that we can form a full Riemann sphere by pasting two copies of $K = \partial K$ together, in such a way that each copy of K covers the full Riemann sphere, while the map f on each copy corresponds to a smooth quadratic rational map from this sphere to itself. We will give a computationally effective description for this particular example, showing just how such a dendrite can map onto a sphere. The construction is closely related to a well known measure-preserving area filling curve, with associated fractal self-similar tiling,¹ which is known as the “Heighway Dragon.” The resulting rational map $F \cong f \perp\!\!\!\perp f$, where $F(z) = (i/2)(z + z^{-1})$, can also be described as a *Lattès mapping*, that is as the quotient of a rigid expanding map on a torus. (This is

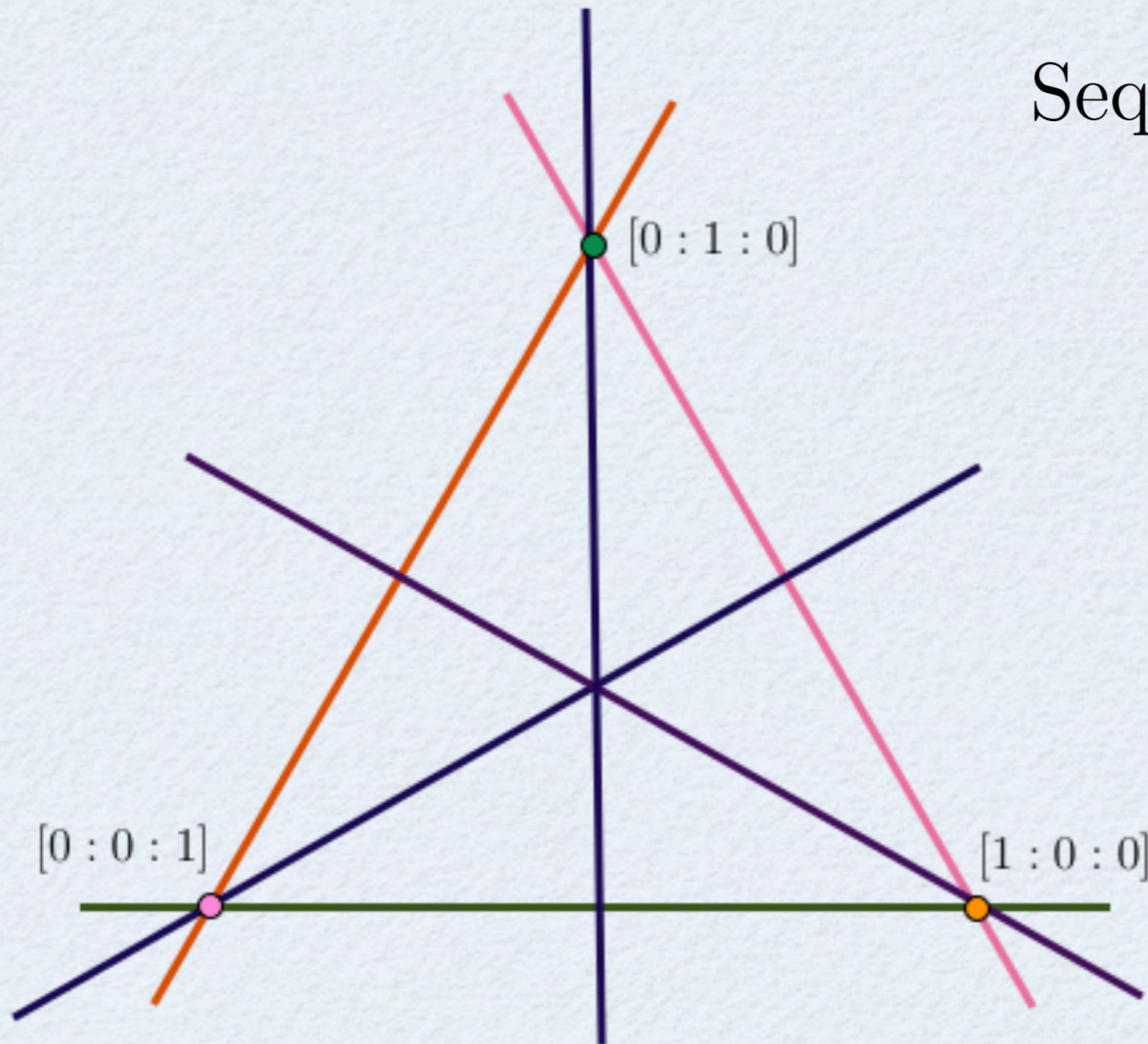
¹See Section 4.2 and Figures 7 and 16. This construction was discovered by John Heighway, a physicist at NASA, circa 1966. Compare [Davis and Knuth 65], [Edgar 90], and even [Crichton 90].

$$\mathbb{P}^2 \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^2, [x : y : z] \mapsto [yz : xz : xy]$$

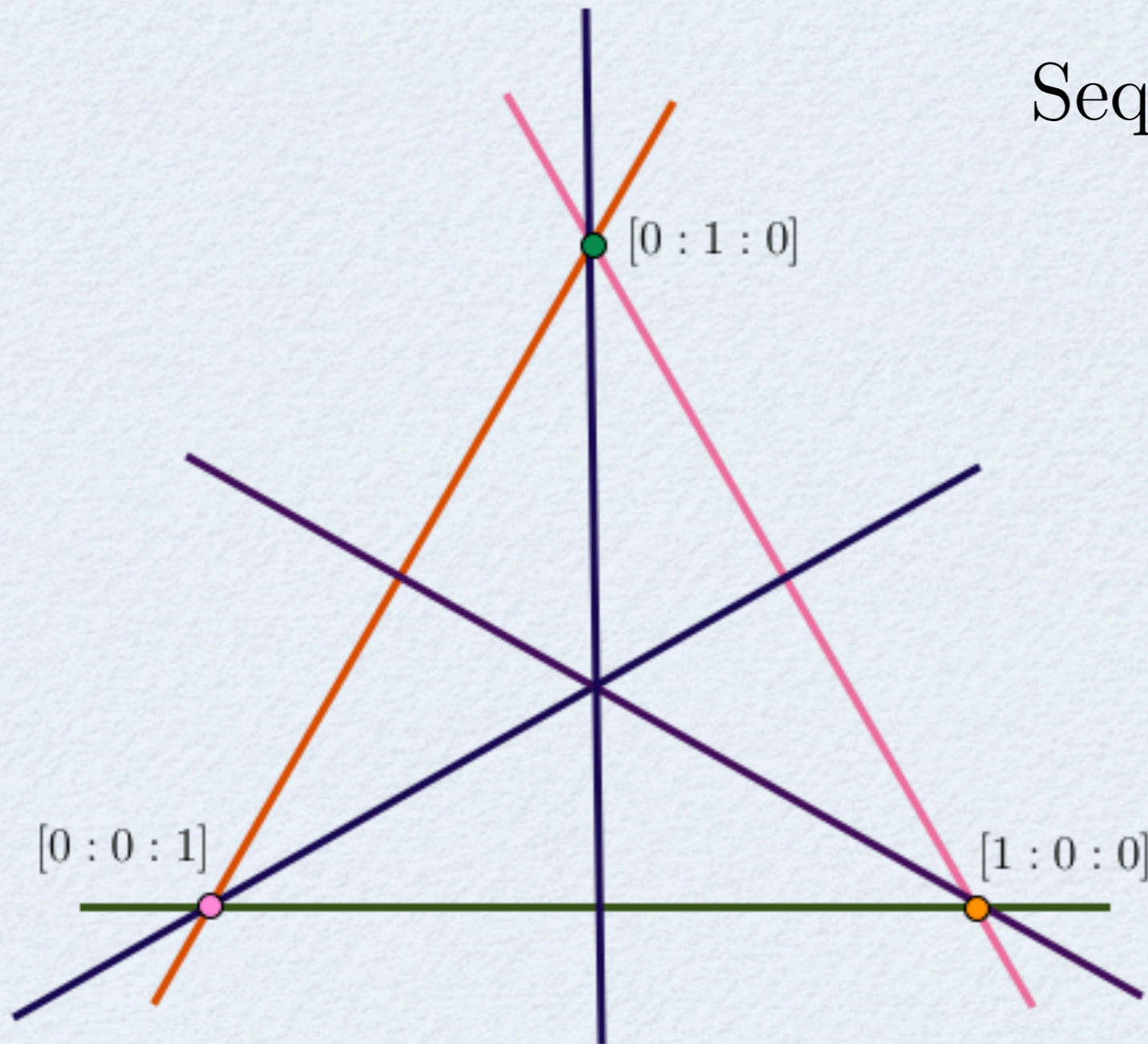


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Sequence of algebraic degrees:

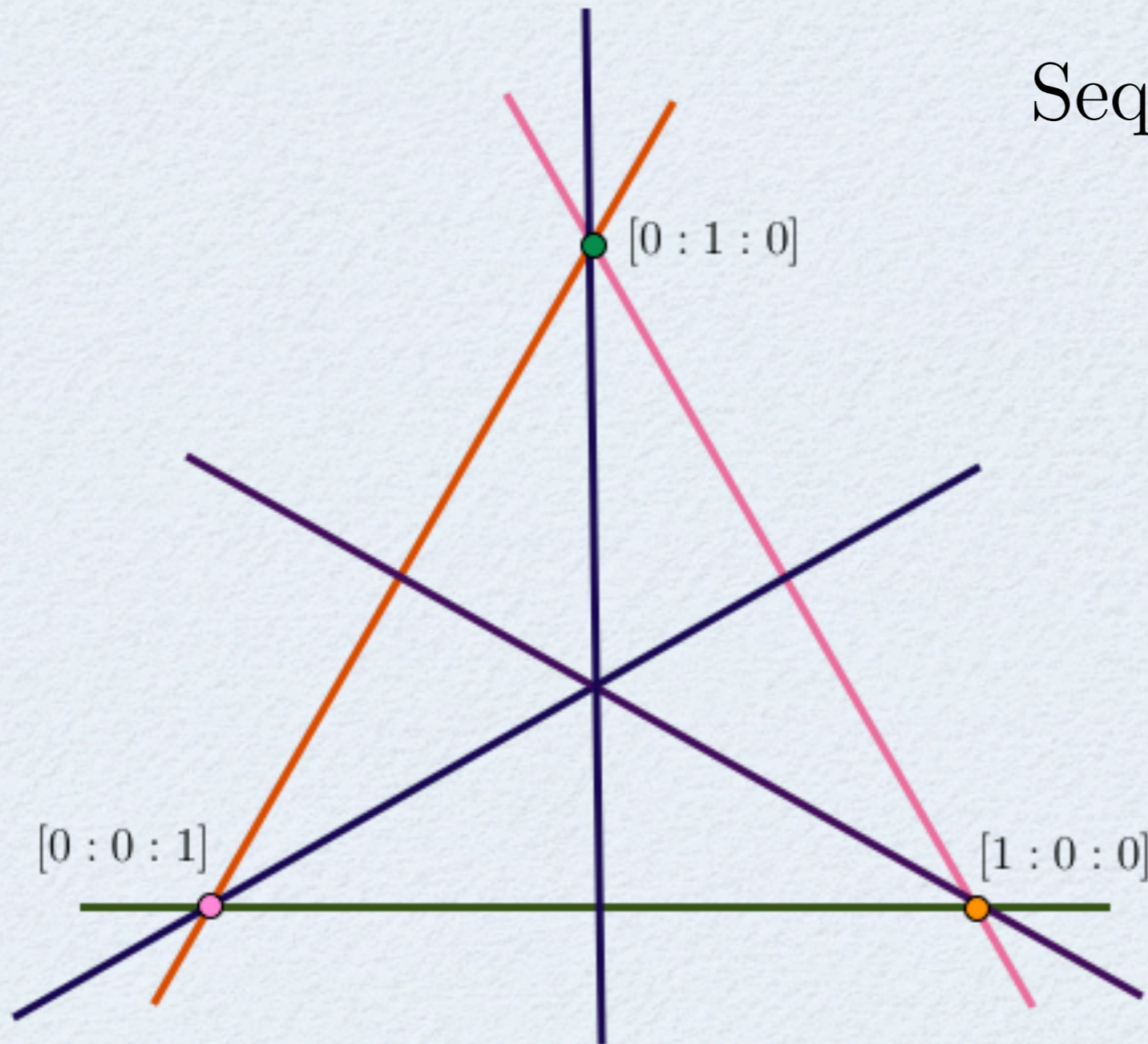


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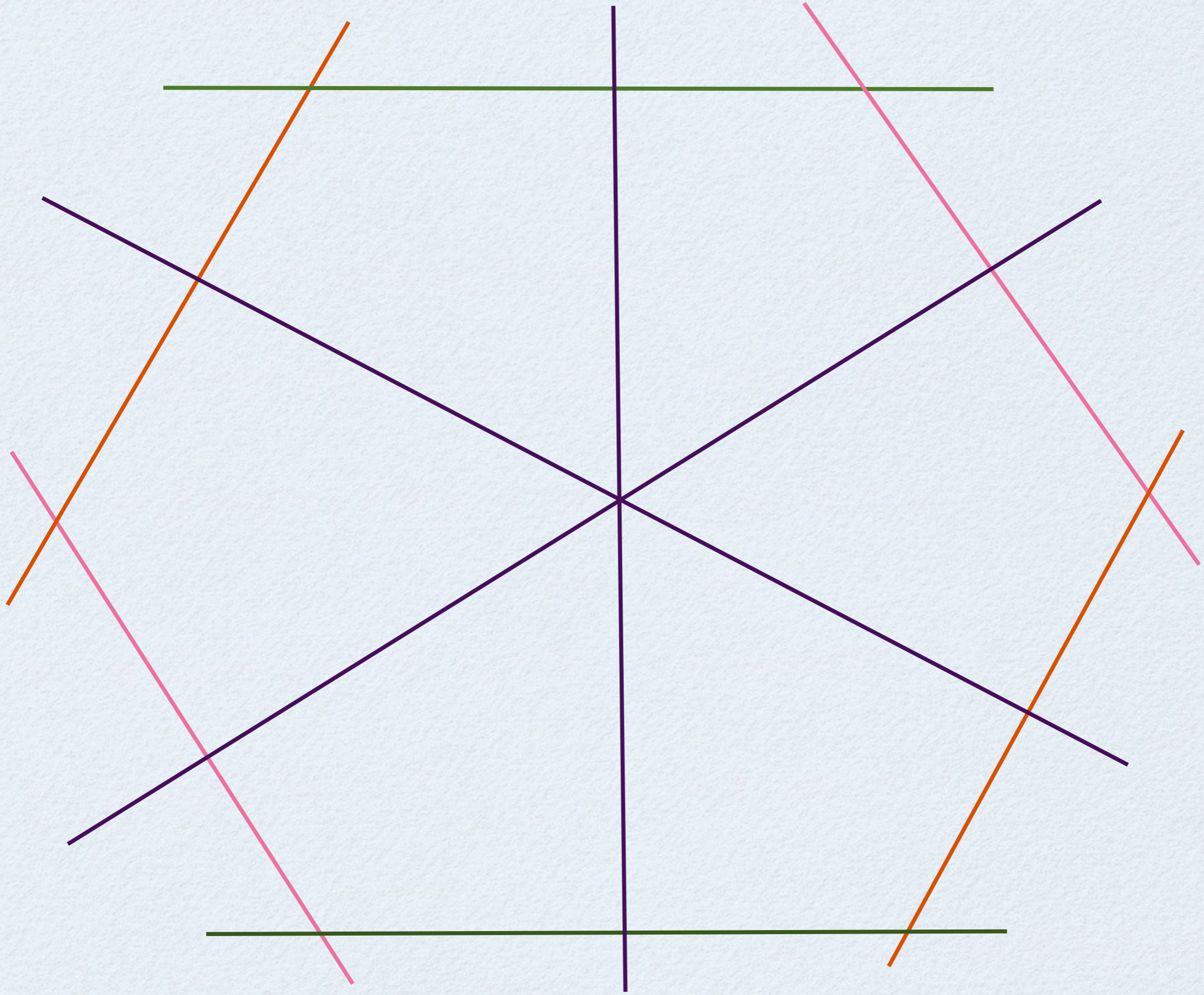
Sequence of algebraic degrees:
 $1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, \dots$

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Sequence of algebraic degrees:
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This map is *not algebraically stable*.



Algebraic stability

Notion was introduced by Fornæss and Sibony.

Let X be a compact complex manifold. Let $F : X \dashrightarrow X$ be a meromorphic map.

F induces an action on $H^2(X)$ by pullback.

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$$\lambda_1 = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|(F^{\circ n})^*\|^{1/n}$$

Preliminary Preliminaries

Let S^2 be the unit sphere in $\mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{R}$, and let

$$P_1 : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, \quad \text{and} \quad P_2 : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

be monic polynomials of degree $d \geq 2$. The *formal mating* of P_1 and P_2 is the branched cover $f : S^2 \rightarrow S^2$ defined as follows.

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Identify dynamical plane of P_1 to H^+ , and identify the dynamical plane of P_2 to H^- via the projections

$$\rho_1 : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow H^+ \quad \text{and} \quad \rho_2 : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow H^-$$
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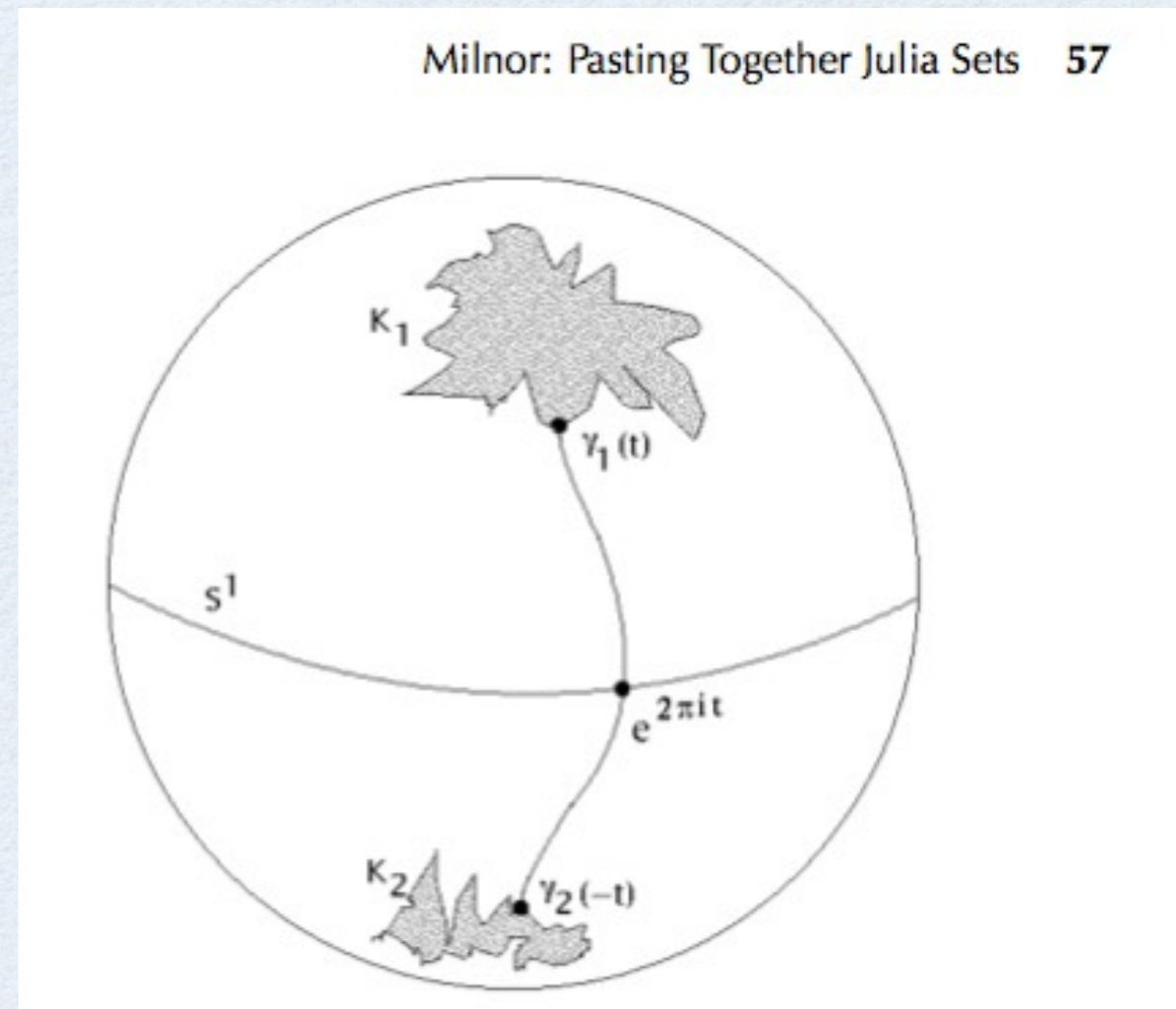
Since the polynomials have the same degree, the map $\rho_1 \circ P_1 \circ \rho_1^{-1}$ defined on H^+ and the map $\rho_2 \circ P_2 \circ \rho_2^{-1}$ defined on H^- extend continuously to the equator of S^2 .

Form the quotient S^2 / \sim by collapsing along external rays. The rational map $F : \mathbb{P}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ is a *geometric mating* of P_1 and P_2 if S^2 / \sim is homeomorphic to S^2 and if the formal mating $f : S^2 \rightarrow S^2$ induces a map

$$S^2 / \sim \rightarrow S^2 / \sim$$

which is topologically conjugate to

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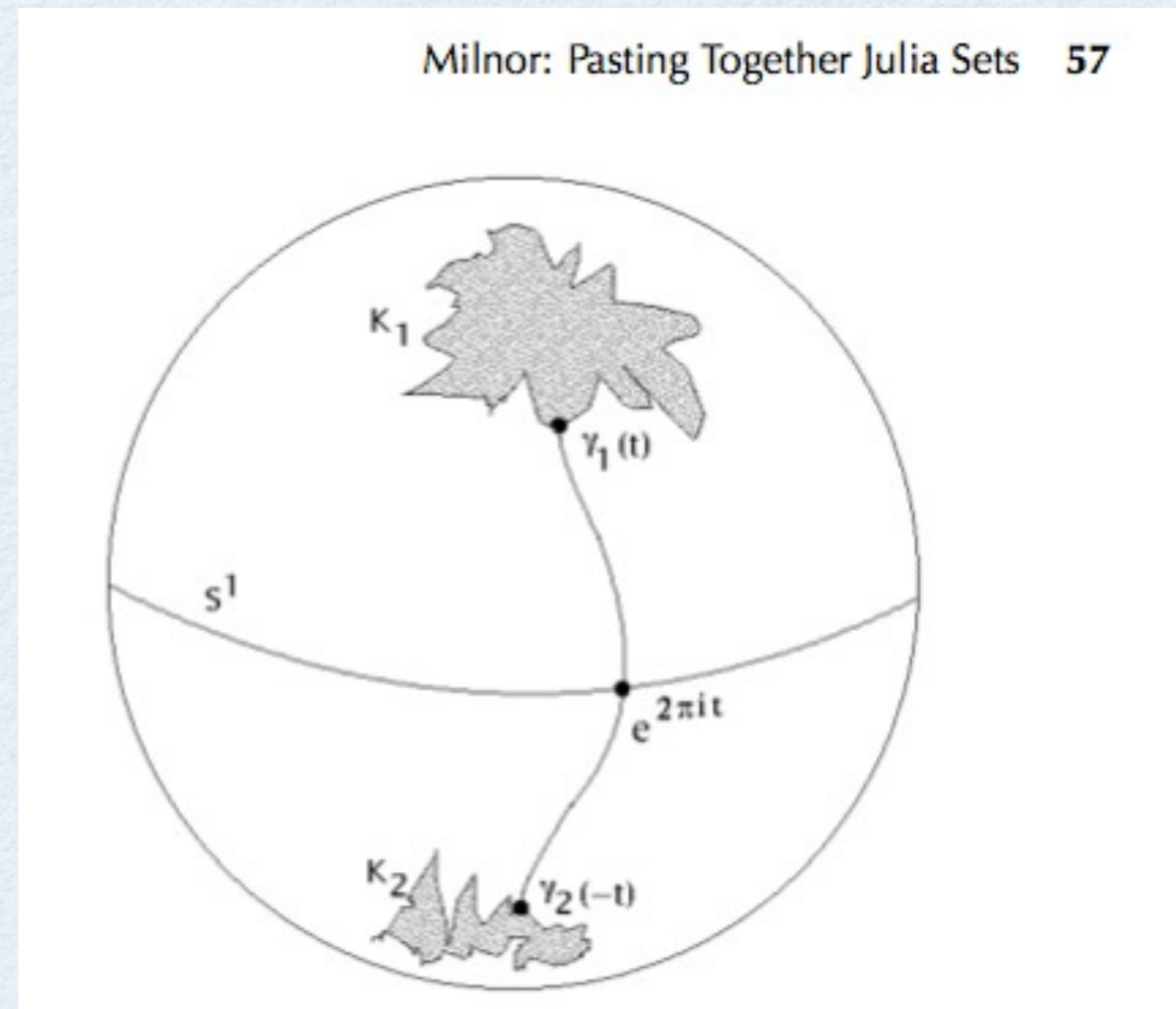
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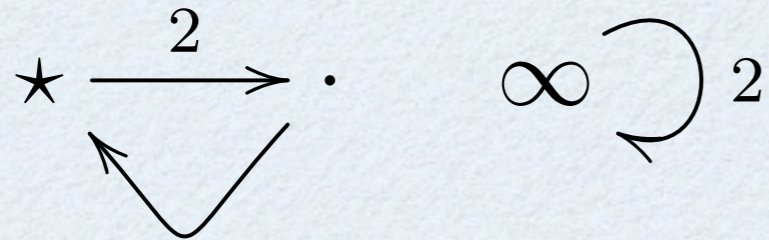
$$F : \mathbb{P}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1.$$

Theorem. (Rees) Let P_1 and P_2 be critically finite hyperbolic polynomials. The formal mating of P_1 and P_2 is combinatorially equivalent to a rational map $F : \mathbb{P}^1 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1$ if and only if F is a geometric mating of P_1 and P_2 .

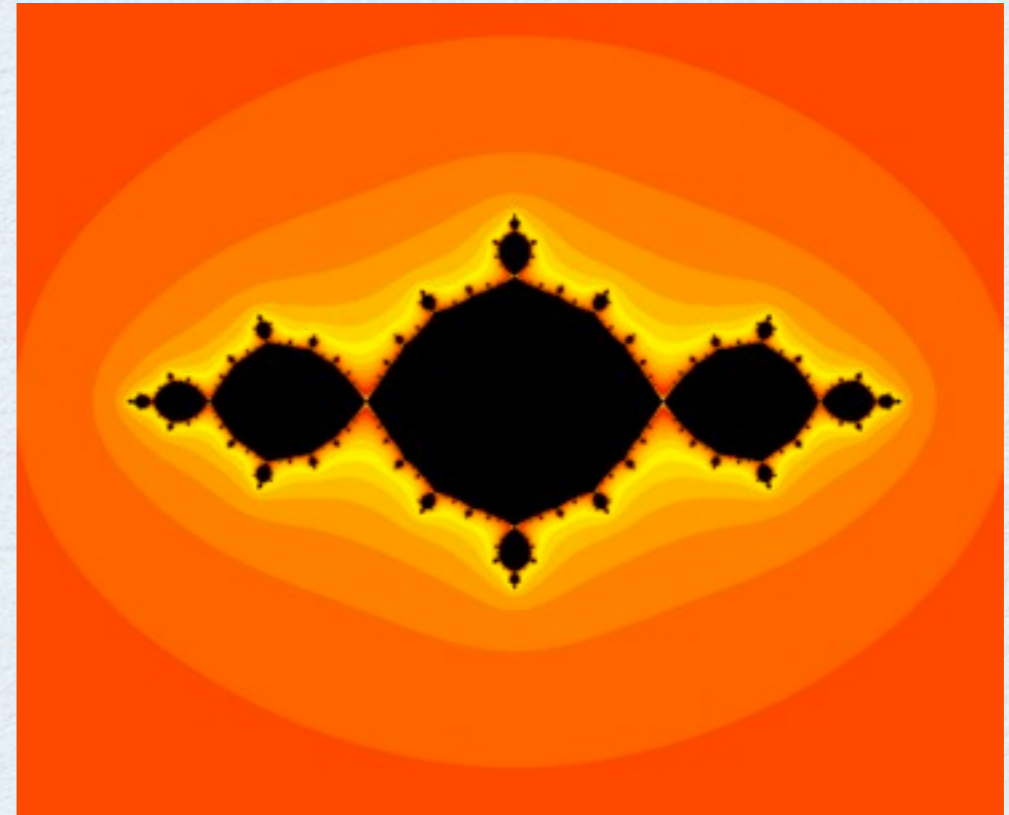
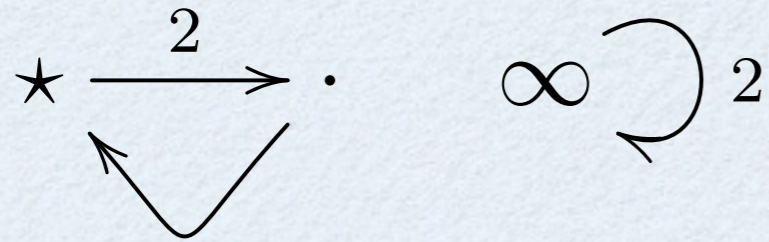


Example: Basilica mate Basilica

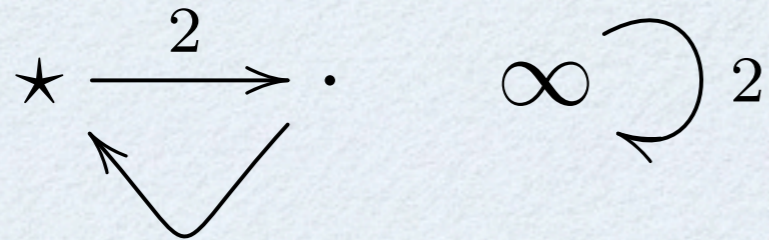
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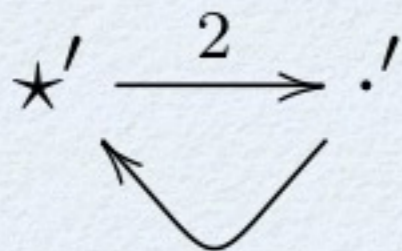
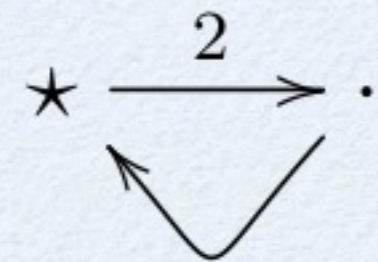
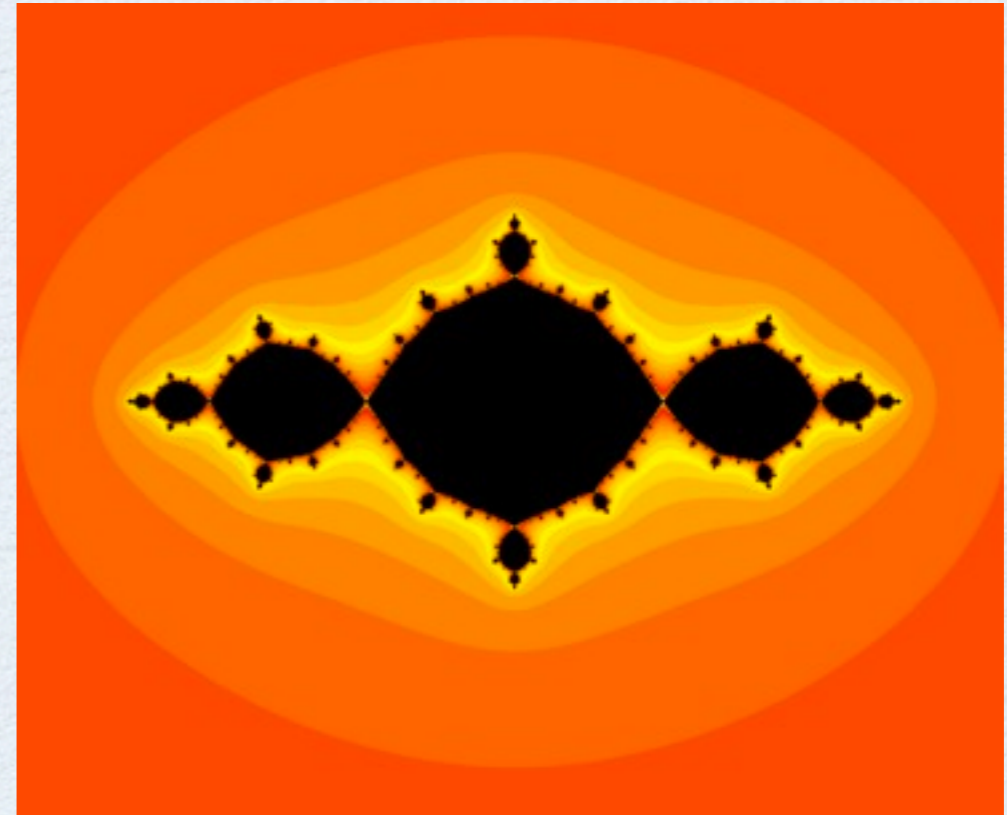


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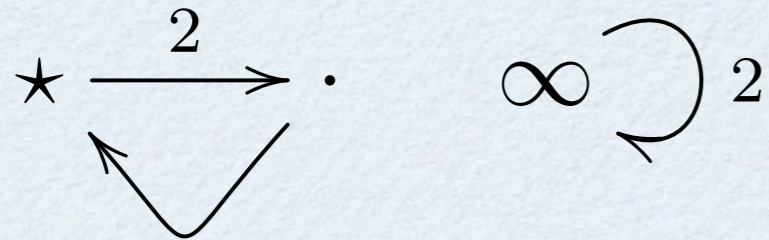


Formal mating:

$$f : (S^2, P) \rightarrow (S^2, P)$$

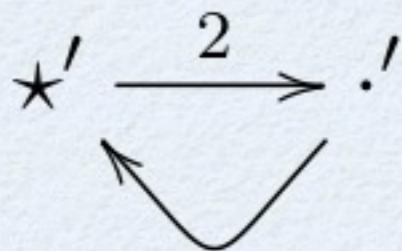
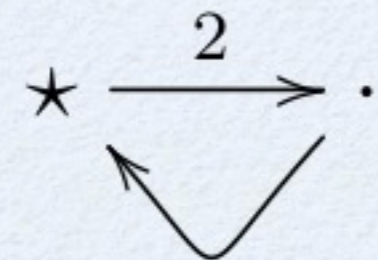
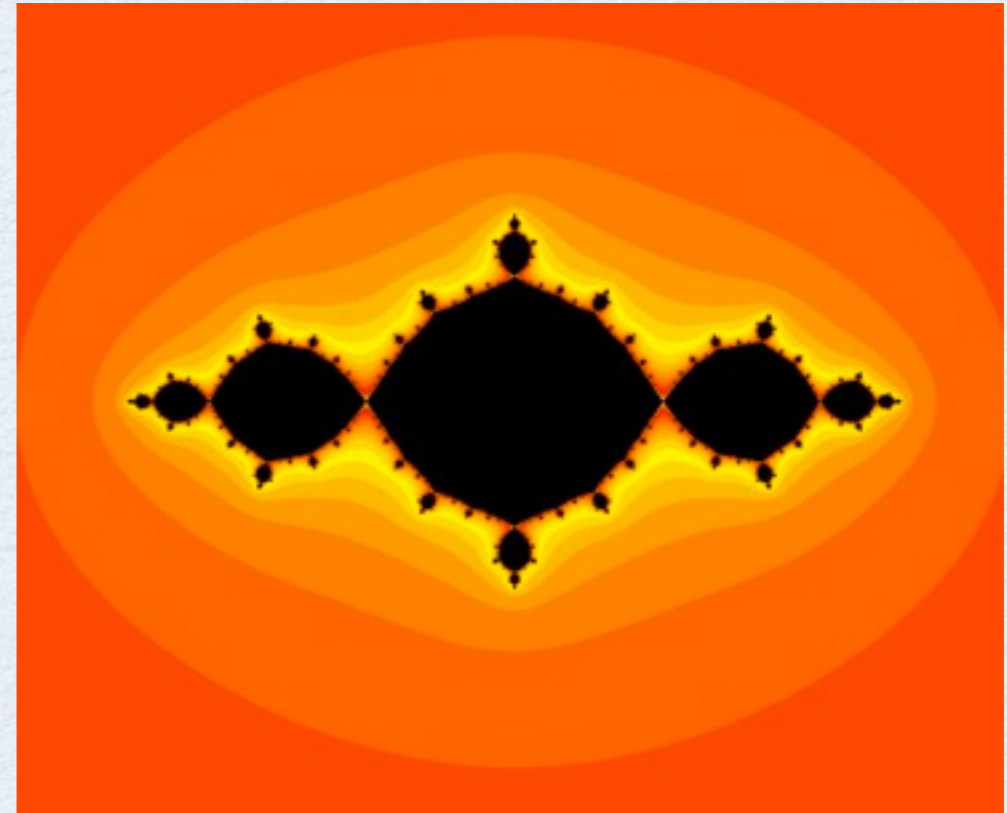


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Formal mating:

$$f : (S^2, P) \rightarrow (S^2, P)$$



No geometric mating exists; this mating is *obstructed*.

Twisted Matings

If P is a monic polynomial of degree $d \geq 2$, then the polynomial $T(P) : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ defined by

$$T(P)(z) = e^{-2\pi i/(d-1)} P(e^{2\pi i/(d-1)} z)$$

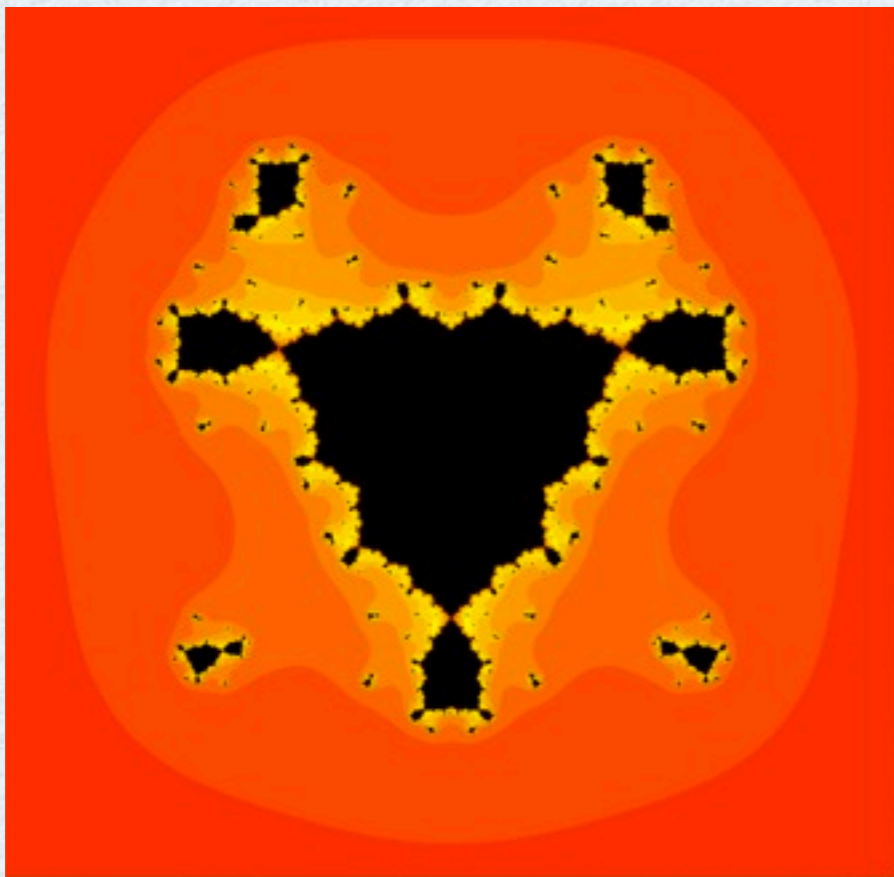
is also monic. The filled Julia set of $T(P)$ is the image of the Julia set of P by the rotation of angle $-1/(d-1)$ turns centered at 0.

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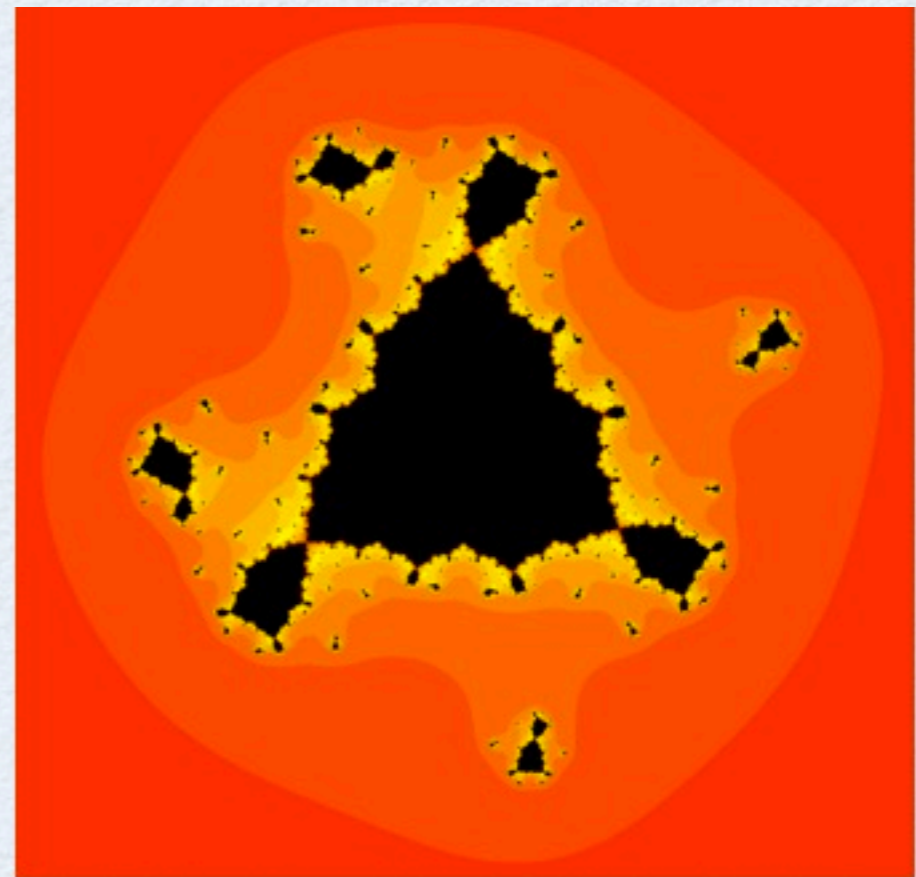
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$$p(z) = z^7 + z^3 - \frac{6}{7}i$$



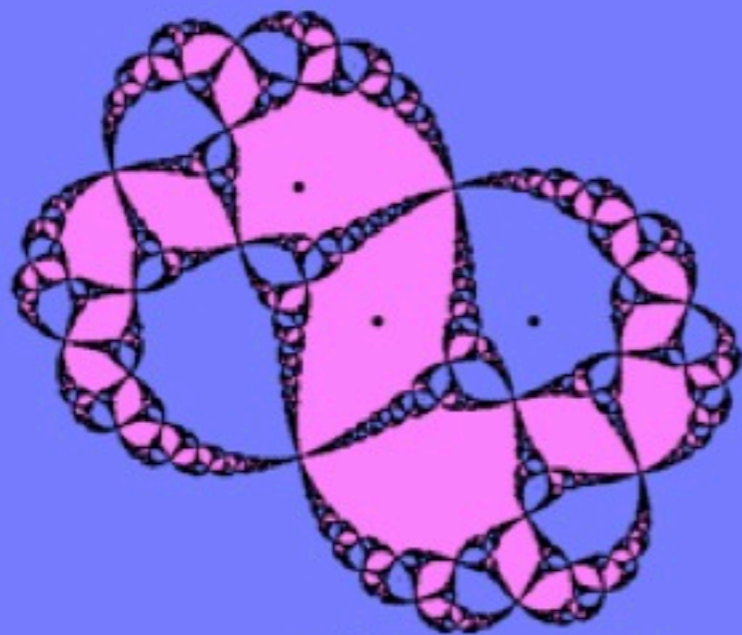
$$T(p)(z) = z^7 - e^{-\pi i/3} \left(z^3 + \frac{6}{7}i \right)$$

Construct the formal mating $f : S^2 \rightarrow S^2$, and form S^2 / \sim by identifying θ and $-k/(d-1) - \theta$.

Proposition. Let P_1 and P_2 be two monic polynomials of degree $d \geq 2$ which are critically finite. Let $f : (S^2, \mathcal{P}_f) \rightarrow (S^2, \mathcal{P}_f)$ be the formal mating of P_1 and P_2 , and let $g : (S^2, \mathcal{P}_g) \rightarrow (S^2, \mathcal{P}_g)$ be the formal mating of P_1 and $T^{\circ k}(P_2)$ (the twisted mating of angle $k/(d-1)$). Let $D : S^2 \rightarrow S^2$ be the Dehn twist around the equator of $S^2 - \mathcal{P}_f$. Then g is combinatorially equivalent to $D^{\circ k} \circ f$.

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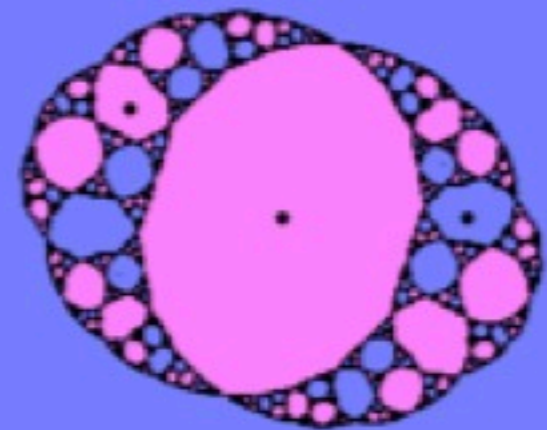
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$$\alpha = -1/3, l = 2$$

$$P(z) = z^2 - 1$$

geometric
twisted mating
of angle α of $P^{\circ l}$
with itself



$$\alpha = -3/15, l = 4$$

Preliminaries

Recall that if $f : (S^2, P) \rightarrow (S^2, P)$ is a critically finite branched cover, then there is an associated holomorphic endomorphism

$$\sigma_f : \mathcal{T}_P \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_P$$

where \mathcal{T}_P is the *Teichmüller space* of (S^2, P) :

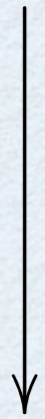
$\phi : S^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^1 : \phi_1 \sim \phi_2 \iff \exists \mu \in \text{Aut}(\mathbb{P}^1)$ such that

- $\phi_1|_P = (\mu \circ \phi_2)|_P$, and
- ϕ_1 is isotopic to $\mu \circ \phi_2$ relative to P

The space \mathcal{T}_P is the universal cover of the *moduli space*, \mathcal{M}_P :

$\{\varphi : P \hookrightarrow \mathbb{P}^1 \text{ up to postcomposition by elements of } \text{Aut}(\mathbb{P}^1)\}$.

$$\pi : \mathcal{T}_P \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_P$$

(S^2, P)  f (S^2, P)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (S^2, P) & & \\ \downarrow f & & \\ (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \phi(P)) \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \psi(P)) \\ \downarrow f & & \\ (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \phi(P)) \end{array}$$

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 \mathcal{M}_P^{\leftarrow} & \xrightarrow{g_f} & \mathcal{M}_P
 \end{array}$$

Proposition. Let $f : (S^2, P) \rightarrow (S^2, P)$ be a critically finite branched cover which is a topological polynomial such that the critical points of f are contained in P . Then a moduli space map exists.

Corollary. Let $f : (S^2, P) \rightarrow (S^2, P)$ be a critically finite branched cover such that the critical points of f are contained in P , and there is a critical point of multiplicity $d - 1$. Then a moduli space map $g_f : \mathcal{M}_P \dashrightarrow \mathcal{M}_P$ exists.

Application. Mating two critically finite hyperbolic polynomials of degree $d \geq 2$.

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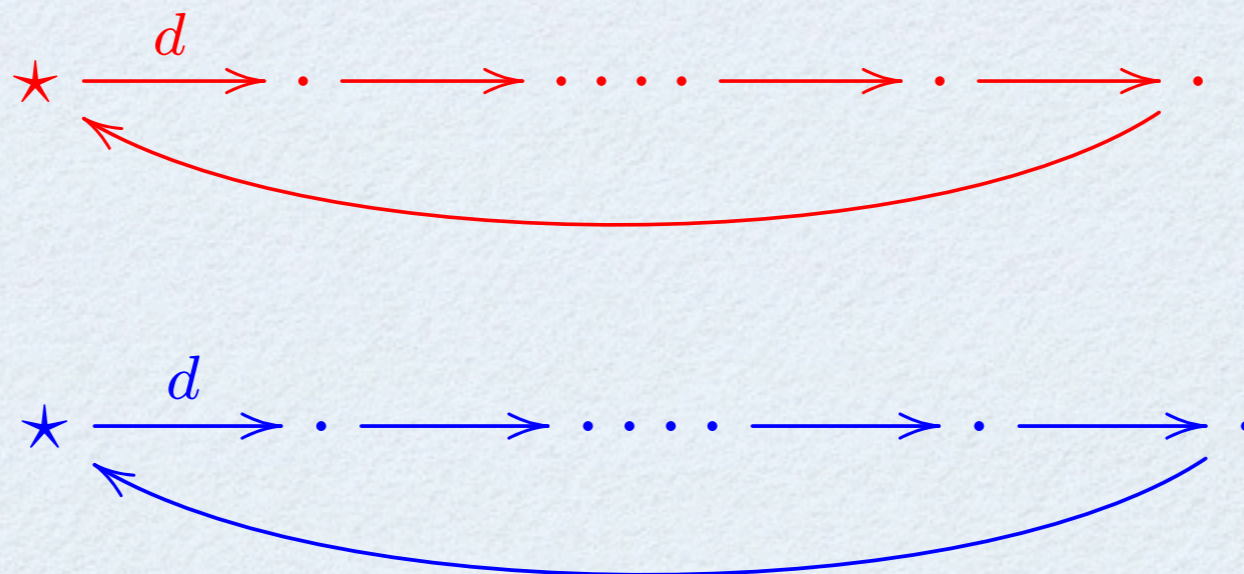
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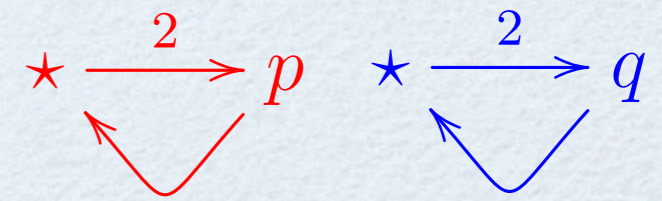
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Example: Basilica mate Basilica

$$P = \{\star, p, \star, q\}$$

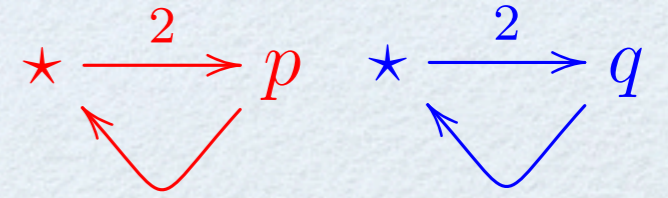
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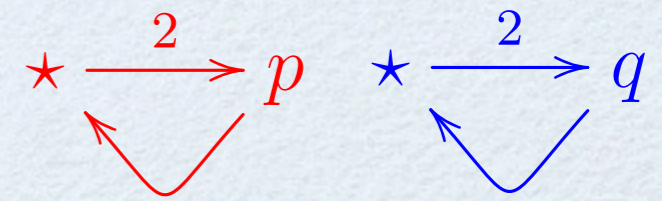
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\mathcal{M}_P is a 1-dimensional manifold.

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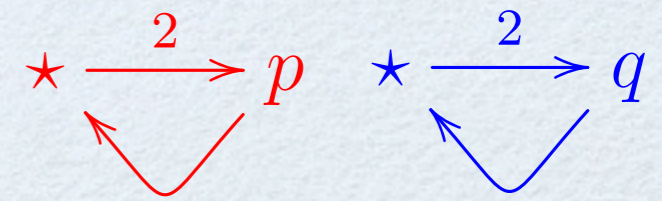
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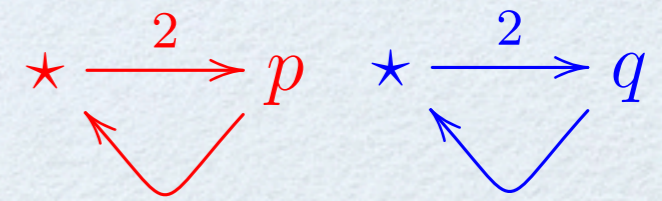
$$\varphi(q) = 1$$

Then φ is determined by $x := \varphi(p)$

$$x \in \mathbb{C} - \{0, 1\}, \quad \mathcal{M}_P \approx \mathbb{P}^1 - \{0, 1, \infty\}$$

Example: Basilica mate Basilica

$$P = \{\star, p, \star, q\} \quad f : (S^2, P) \rightarrow (S^2, P)$$



\mathcal{M}_P is a 1-dimensional manifold.

$$\varphi \in \mathcal{M}_P,$$

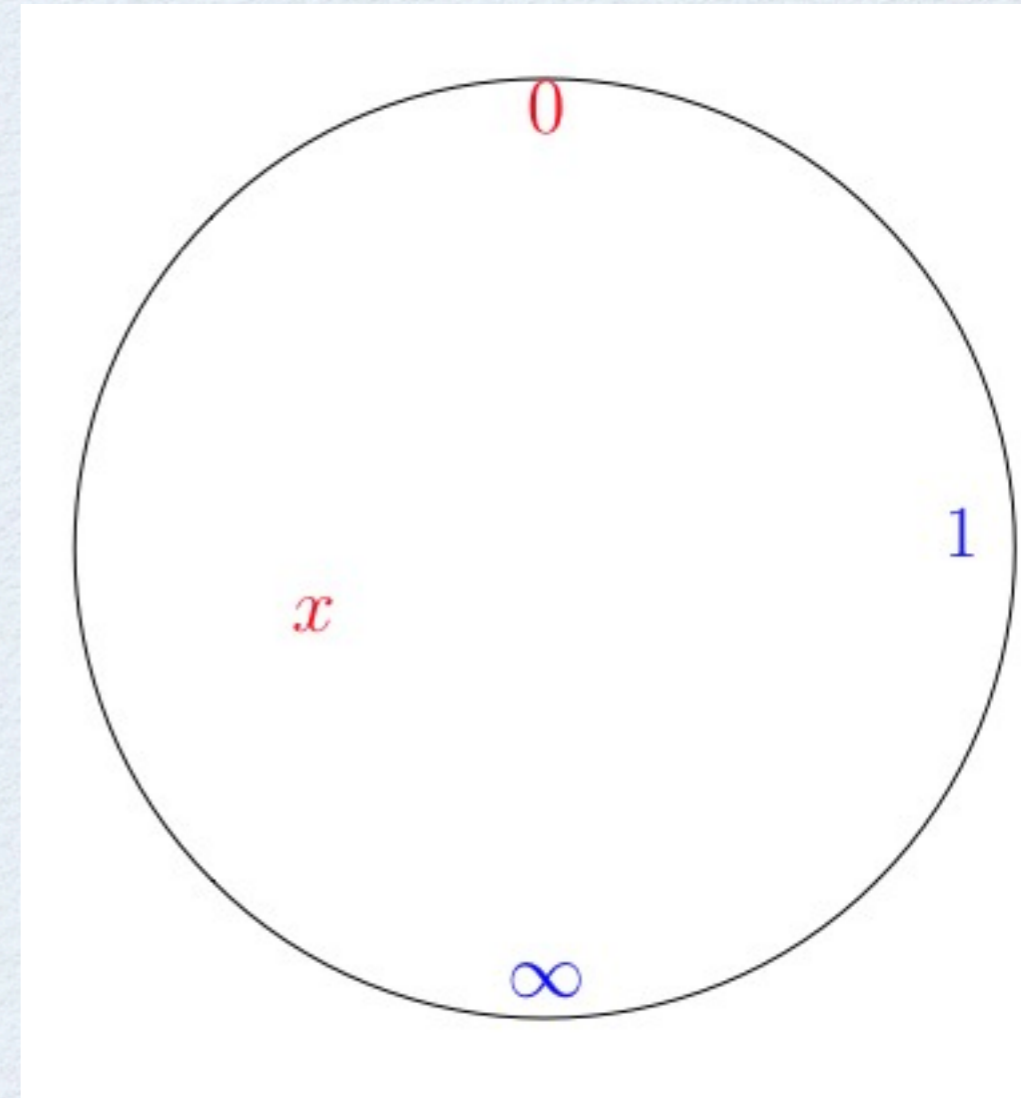
$$\varphi(\star) = \infty,$$

$$\varphi(\star) = 0,$$

$$\varphi(q) = 1$$

Then φ is determined by $x := \varphi(p)$

$$x \in \mathbb{C} - \{0, 1\}, \quad \mathcal{M}_P \approx \mathbb{P}^1 - \{0, 1, \infty\}$$



$$\begin{array}{ccc} (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \psi(P)) \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow F \\ (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \phi(P)) \end{array}$$

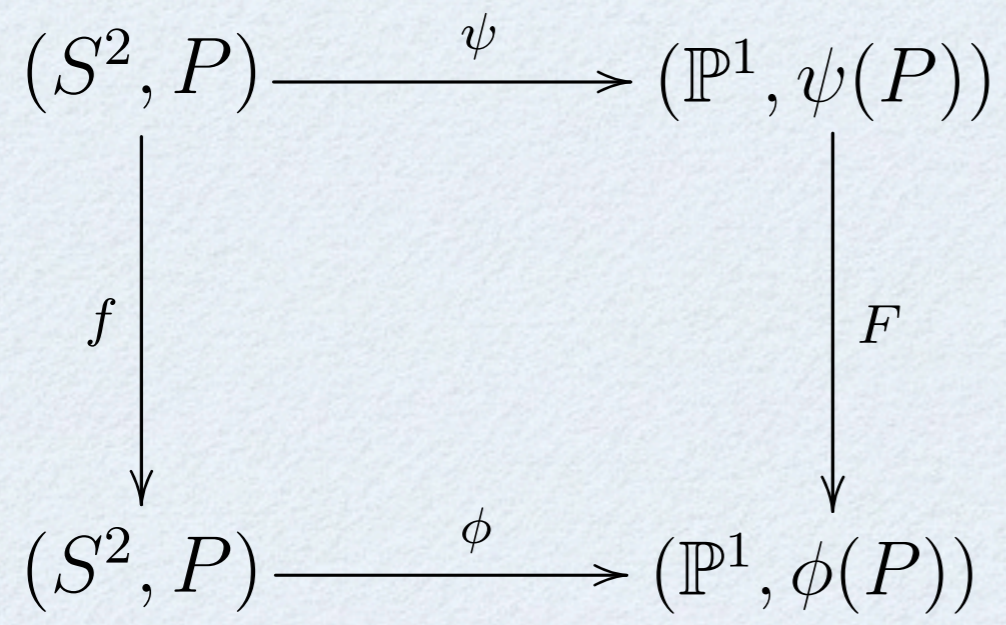
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \psi(P)) \\
 \downarrow f & & \downarrow F \\
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \phi(P))
 \end{array}$$

$$\phi(\star) = 0$$

$$\phi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\phi(q) = 1$$

$$\phi(p) = y$$



$$\phi(\star) = 0$$

$$\psi(\star) = 0$$

$$\phi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\psi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\phi(q) = 1$$

$$\psi(q) = 1$$

$$\phi(p) = y$$

$$\psi(p) = x$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \psi(P)) \\
 \downarrow f & & \downarrow F \\
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \phi(P))
 \end{array}$$

$$\phi(\star) = 0$$

$$\psi(\star) = 0$$

$$\phi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\psi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\phi(q) = 1$$

$$\psi(q) = 1$$

$$\phi(p) = y$$

$$\psi(p) = x$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{T}_P & \xrightarrow{\sigma_f} & \mathcal{T}_P \\
 \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi \\
 \mathcal{M}_P & & \mathcal{M}_P
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \psi(P)) \\
 \downarrow f & & \downarrow F \\
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \phi(P))
 \end{array}$$

$$\phi(\star) = 0$$

$$\psi(\star) = 0$$

$$\phi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\psi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\phi(q) = 1$$

$$\psi(q) = 1$$

$$\phi(p) = y$$

$$\psi(p) = x$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \phi \mathcal{T}_P & \xrightarrow{\sigma_f} & \mathcal{T}_P \\
 \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi \\
 \mathcal{M}_P & & \mathcal{M}_P
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \psi(P)) \\
 \downarrow f & & \downarrow F \\
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \phi(P))
 \end{array}$$

$$\phi(\star) = 0$$

$$\psi(\star) = 0$$

$$\phi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\psi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\phi(q) = 1$$

$$\psi(q) = 1$$

$$\phi(p) = y$$

$$\psi(p) = x$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \phi \mathcal{T}_P & \xrightarrow{\sigma_f} & \mathcal{T}_P \psi \\
 \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi \\
 \mathcal{M}_P & & \mathcal{M}_P
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \psi(P)) \\
 \downarrow f & & \downarrow F \\
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \phi(P))
 \end{array}$$

$$\phi(\star) = 0$$

$$\psi(\star) = 0$$

$$\phi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\psi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\phi(q) = 1$$

$$\psi(q) = 1$$

$$\phi(p) = y$$

$$\psi(p) = x$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \overset{\phi}{\mathcal{T}_P} & \xrightarrow{\sigma_f} & \overset{\psi}{\mathcal{T}_P} \\
 \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi \\
 \underset{y}{\mathcal{M}_P} & & \mathcal{M}_P
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \psi(P)) \\
 \downarrow f & & \downarrow F \\
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \phi(P))
 \end{array}$$

$$\phi(\star) = 0$$

$$\psi(\star) = 0$$

$$\phi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\psi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\phi(q) = 1$$

$$\psi(q) = 1$$

$$\phi(p) = y$$

$$\psi(p) = x$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \overset{\phi}{\mathcal{T}_P} & \xrightarrow{\sigma_f} & \overset{\psi}{\mathcal{T}_P} \\
 \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi \\
 \underset{y}{\mathcal{M}_P} & & \underset{x}{\mathcal{M}_P}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \psi(P)) \\
 \downarrow f & & \downarrow F \\
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \phi(P))
 \end{array}$$

$$\phi(\star) = 0$$

$$\psi(\star) = 0$$

$$\phi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\psi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\phi(q) = 1$$

$$\psi(q) = 1$$

$$\phi(p) = y$$

$$\psi(p) = x$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 1 \\
 \downarrow \\
 \infty
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \infty \\
 \downarrow 2 \\
 1
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 x \\
 \downarrow \\
 0
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 0 \\
 \downarrow 2 \\
 y
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \phi \mathcal{T}_P & \xrightarrow{\sigma_f} & \mathcal{T}_P \psi \\
 \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi \\
 \mathcal{M}_P y & & \mathcal{M}_P x
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \psi(P)) \\
 \downarrow f & & \downarrow F \\
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \phi(P))
 \end{array}$$

$$\phi(\star) = 0$$

$$\psi(\star) = 0$$

$$\phi(\star) = \infty$$

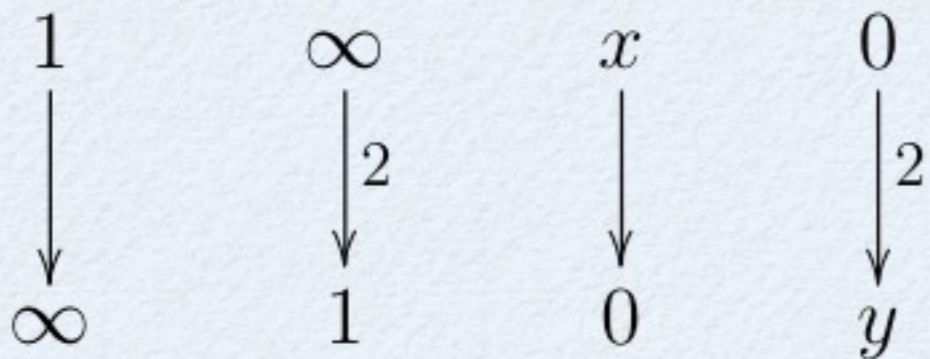
$$\psi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\phi(q) = 1$$

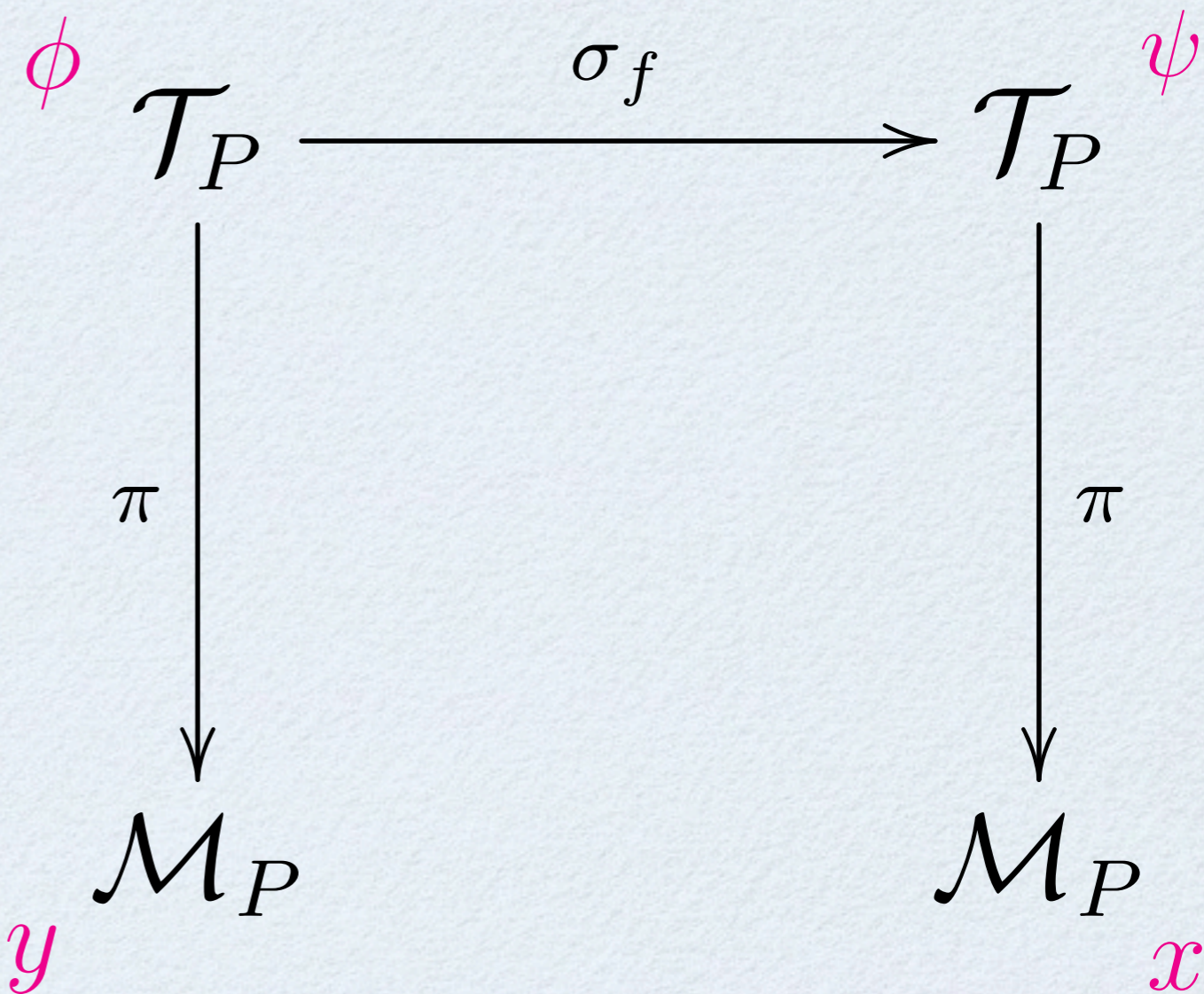
$$\psi(q) = 1$$

$$\phi(p) = y$$

$$\psi(p) = x$$



$$F(t) = \frac{t^2 - x^2}{t^2 - 1}$$



$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \psi(P)) \\
 \downarrow f & & \downarrow F \\
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \phi(P))
 \end{array}$$

$$\phi(\star) = 0$$

$$\psi(\star) = 0$$

$$\phi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\psi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\phi(q) = 1$$

$$\psi(q) = 1$$

$$\phi(p) = y$$

$$\psi(p) = x$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 1 & \infty & x & 0 \\
 \downarrow & \downarrow 2 & \downarrow & \downarrow 2 \\
 \infty & 1 & 0 & y
 \end{array}$$

$$F(t) = \frac{t^2 - x^2}{t^2 - 1}$$

$$y = x^2$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \phi \mathcal{T}_P & \xrightarrow{\sigma_f} & \mathcal{T}_P \psi \\
 \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow \pi \\
 y \mathcal{M}_P & & \mathcal{M}_P x
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \psi(P)) \\
 \downarrow f & & \downarrow F \\
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \phi(P))
 \end{array}$$

$$\phi(\star) = 0$$

$$\psi(\star) = 0$$

$$\phi(\star) = \infty$$

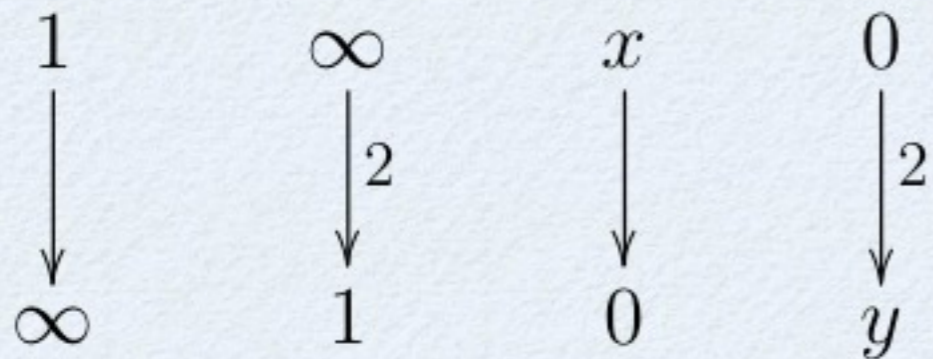
$$\psi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\phi(q) = 1$$

$$\psi(q) = 1$$

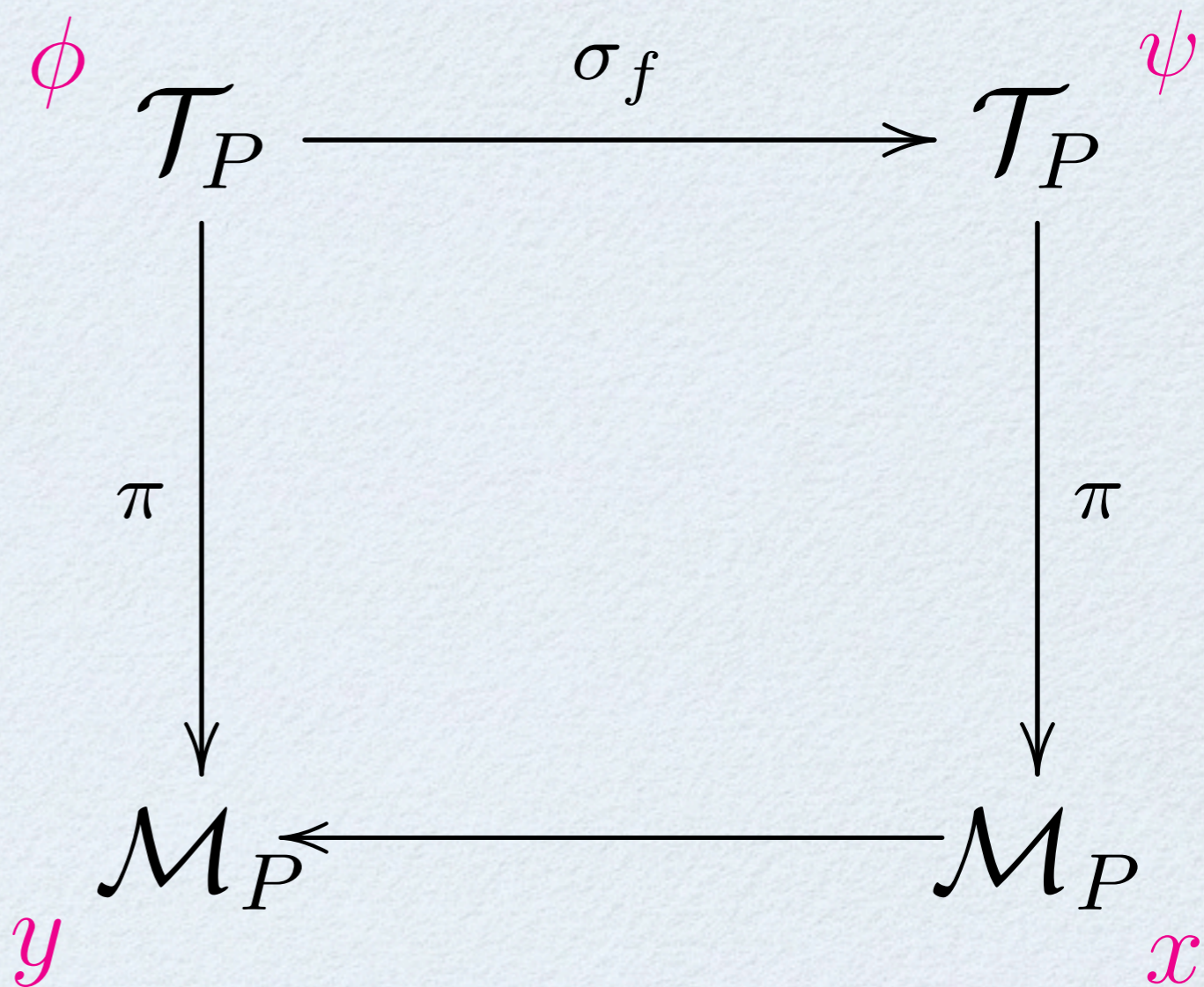
$$\phi(p) = y$$

$$\psi(p) = x$$



$$F(t) = \frac{t^2 - x^2}{t^2 - 1}$$

$$y = x^2$$



$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\psi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \psi(P)) \\
 \downarrow f & & \downarrow F \\
 (S^2, P) & \xrightarrow{\phi} & (\mathbb{P}^1, \phi(P))
 \end{array}$$

$$\phi(\star) = 0$$

$$\psi(\star) = 0$$

$$\phi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\psi(\star) = \infty$$

$$\phi(q) = 1$$

$$\psi(q) = 1$$

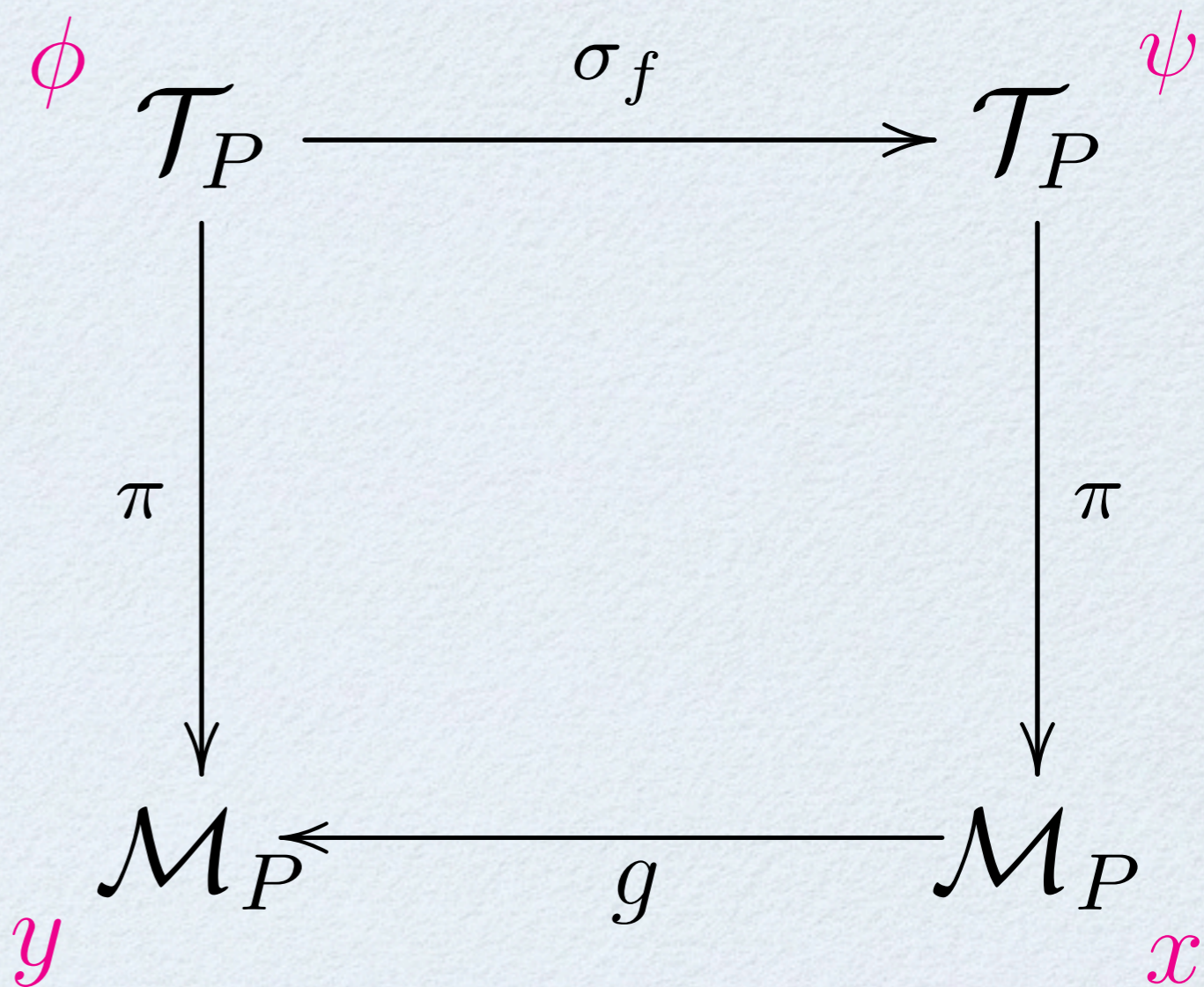
$$\phi(p) = y$$

$$\psi(p) = x$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc}
 1 & \infty & x & 0 \\
 \downarrow & \downarrow 2 & \downarrow & \downarrow 2 \\
 \infty & 1 & 0 & y
 \end{array}$$

$$F(t) = \frac{t^2 - x^2}{t^2 - 1}$$

$$y = x^2$$



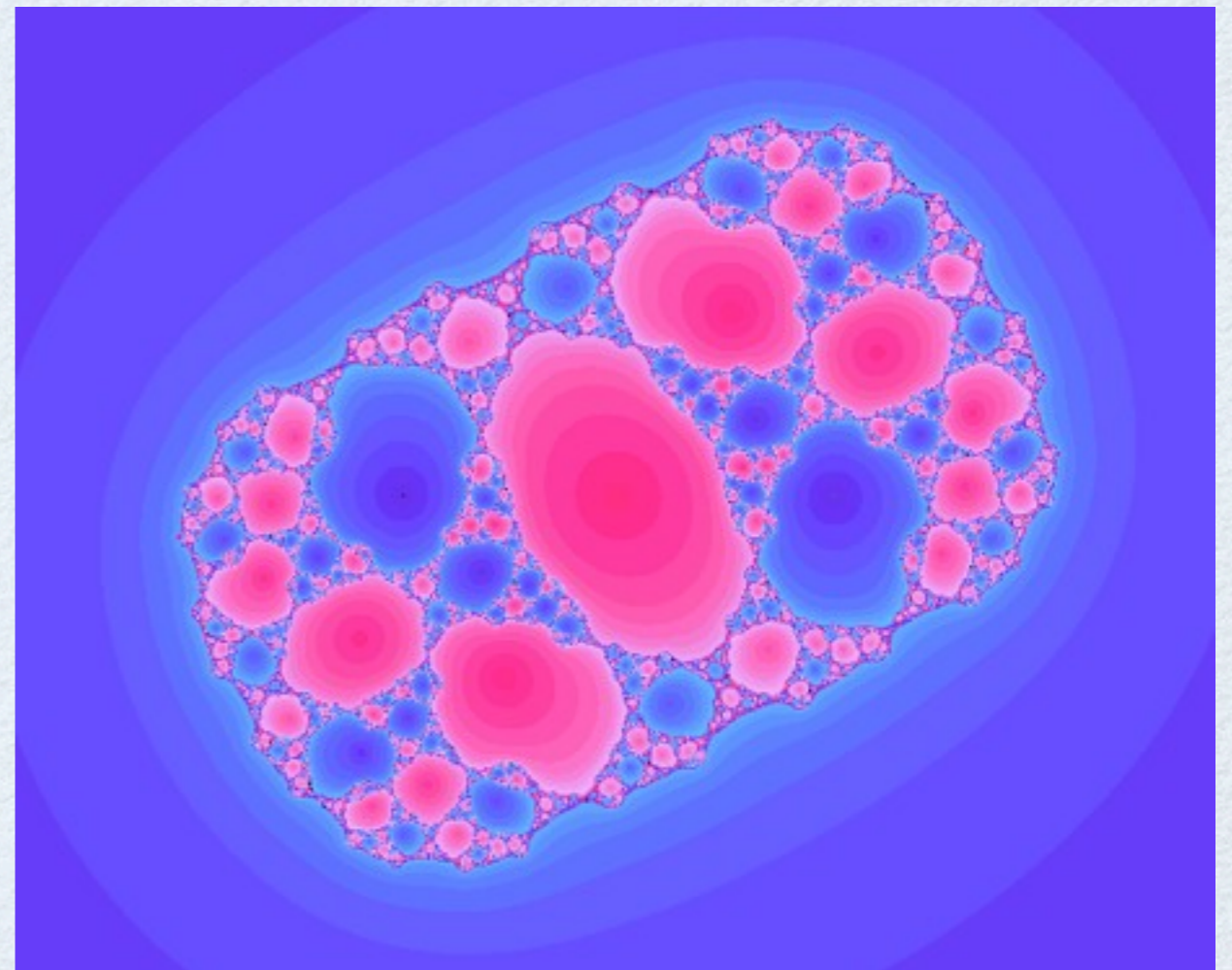
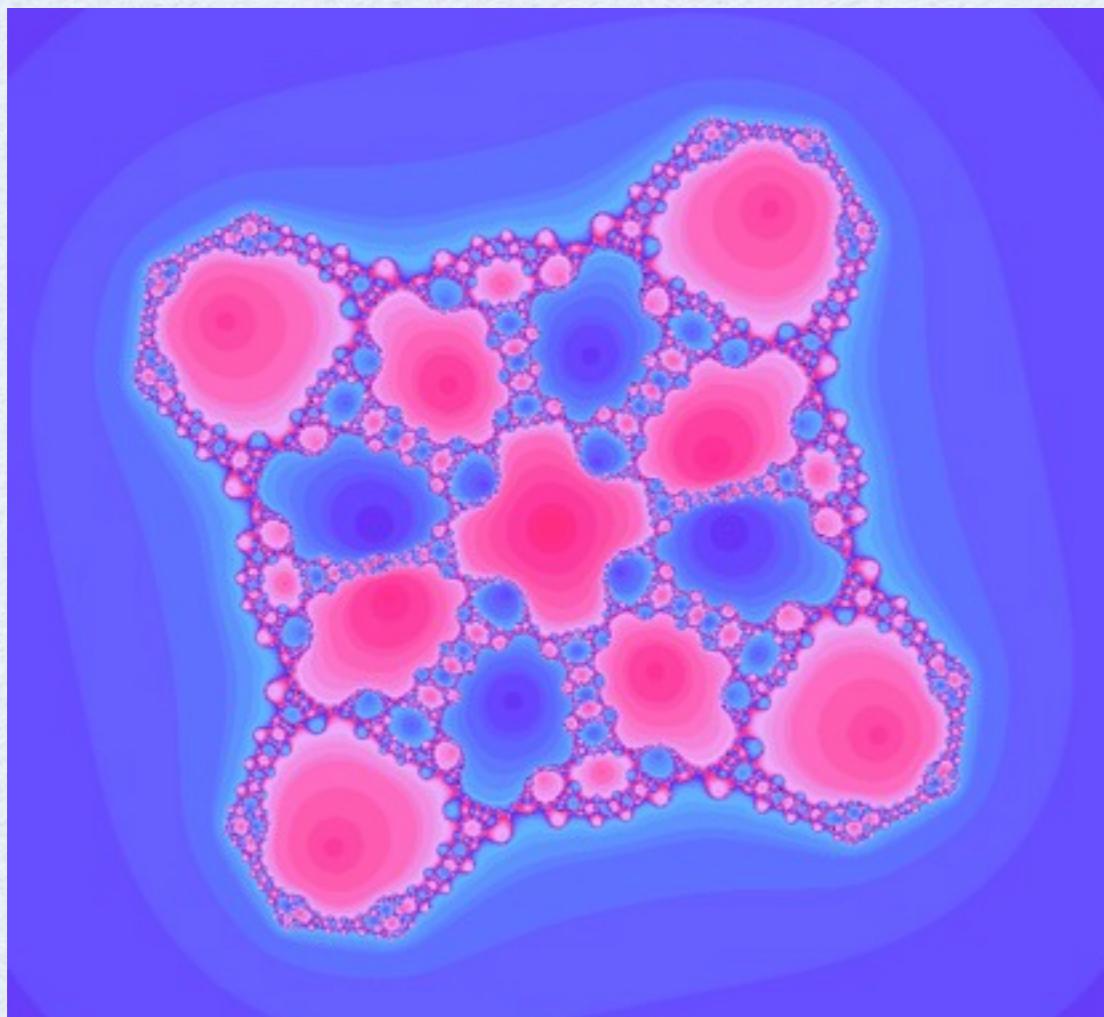


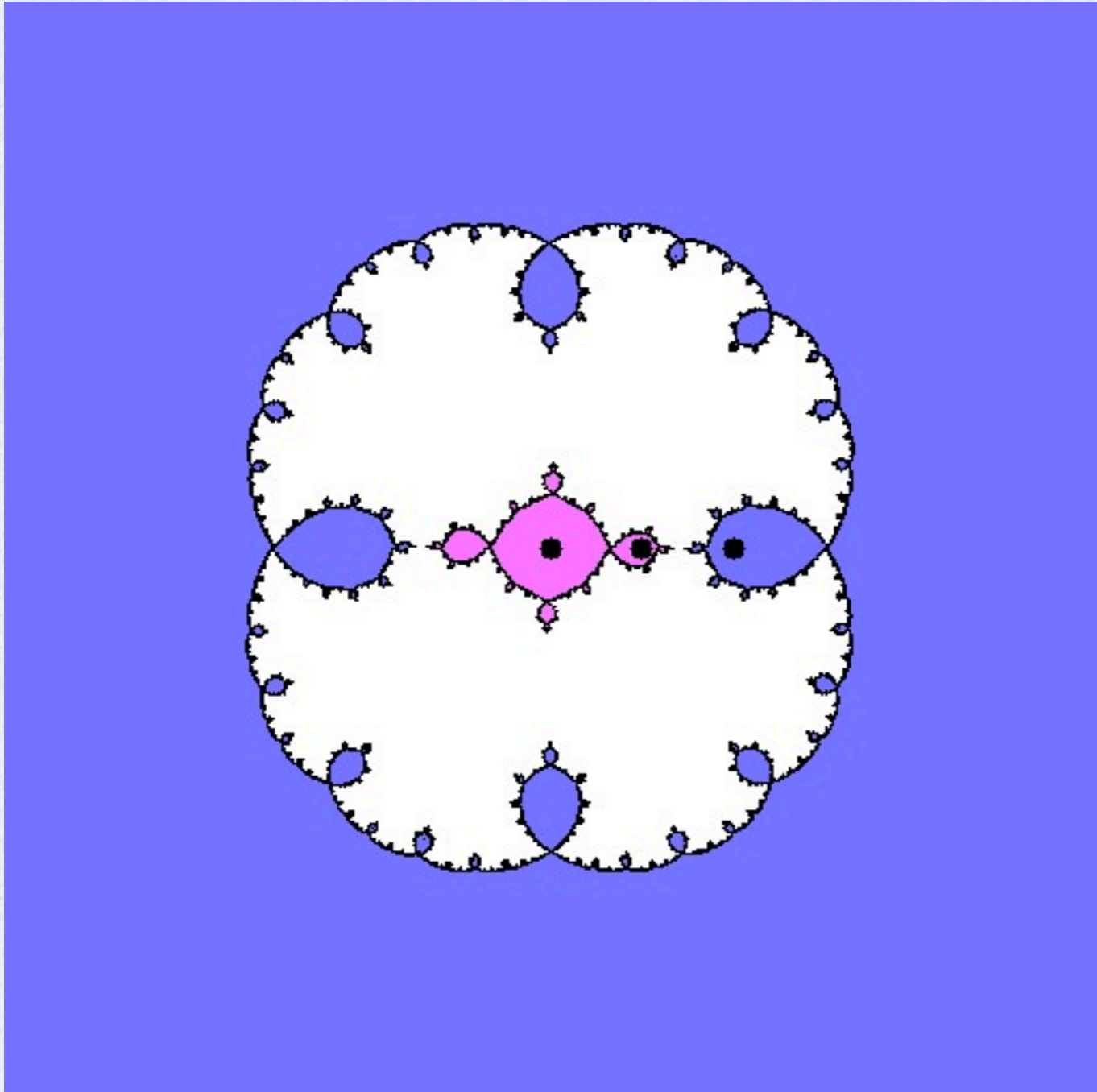
The skew product

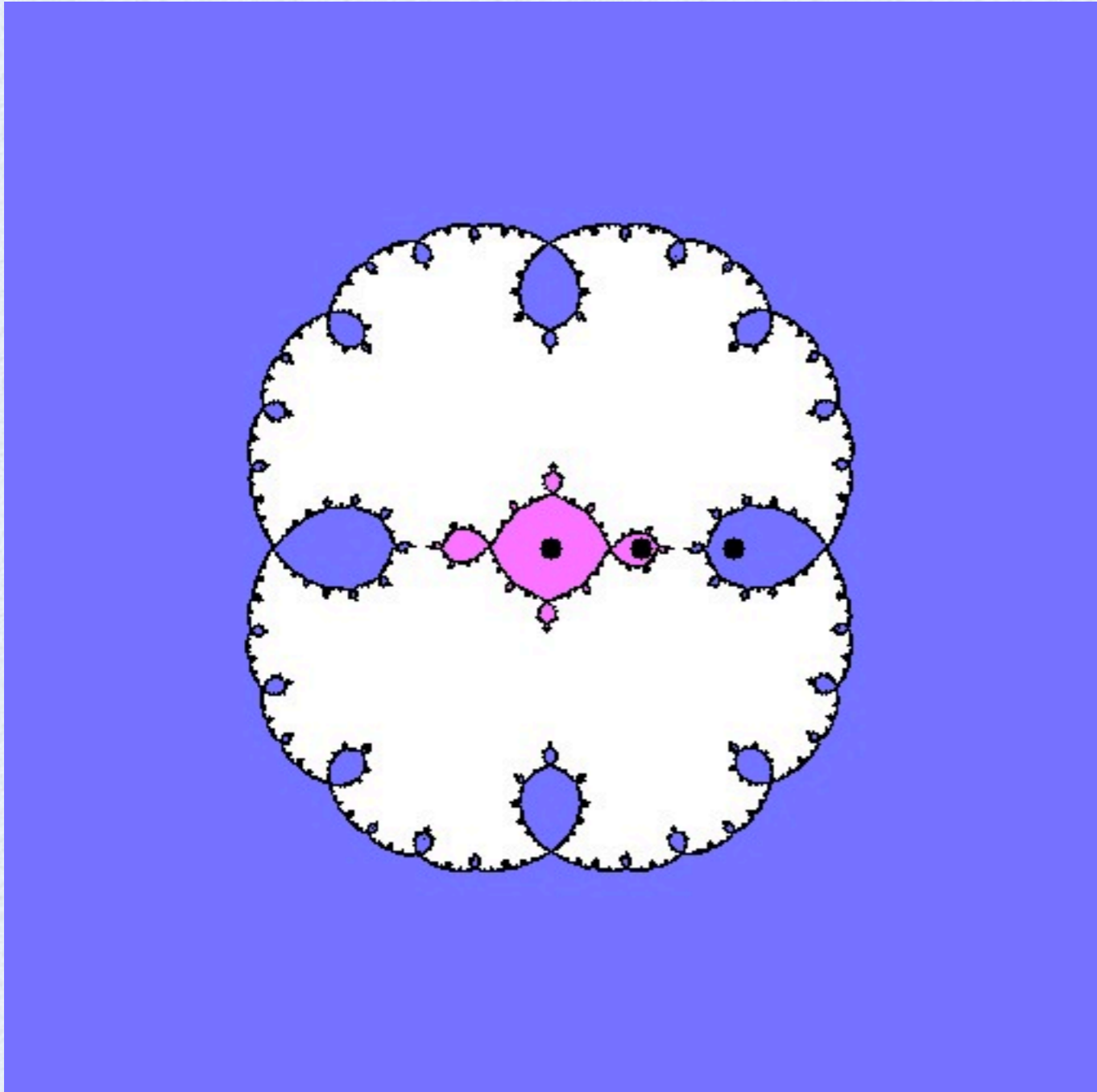
$$G : \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2 \quad \text{given by} \quad G : \begin{pmatrix} t \\ x \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} F_x(t) \\ g(x) \end{pmatrix}$$

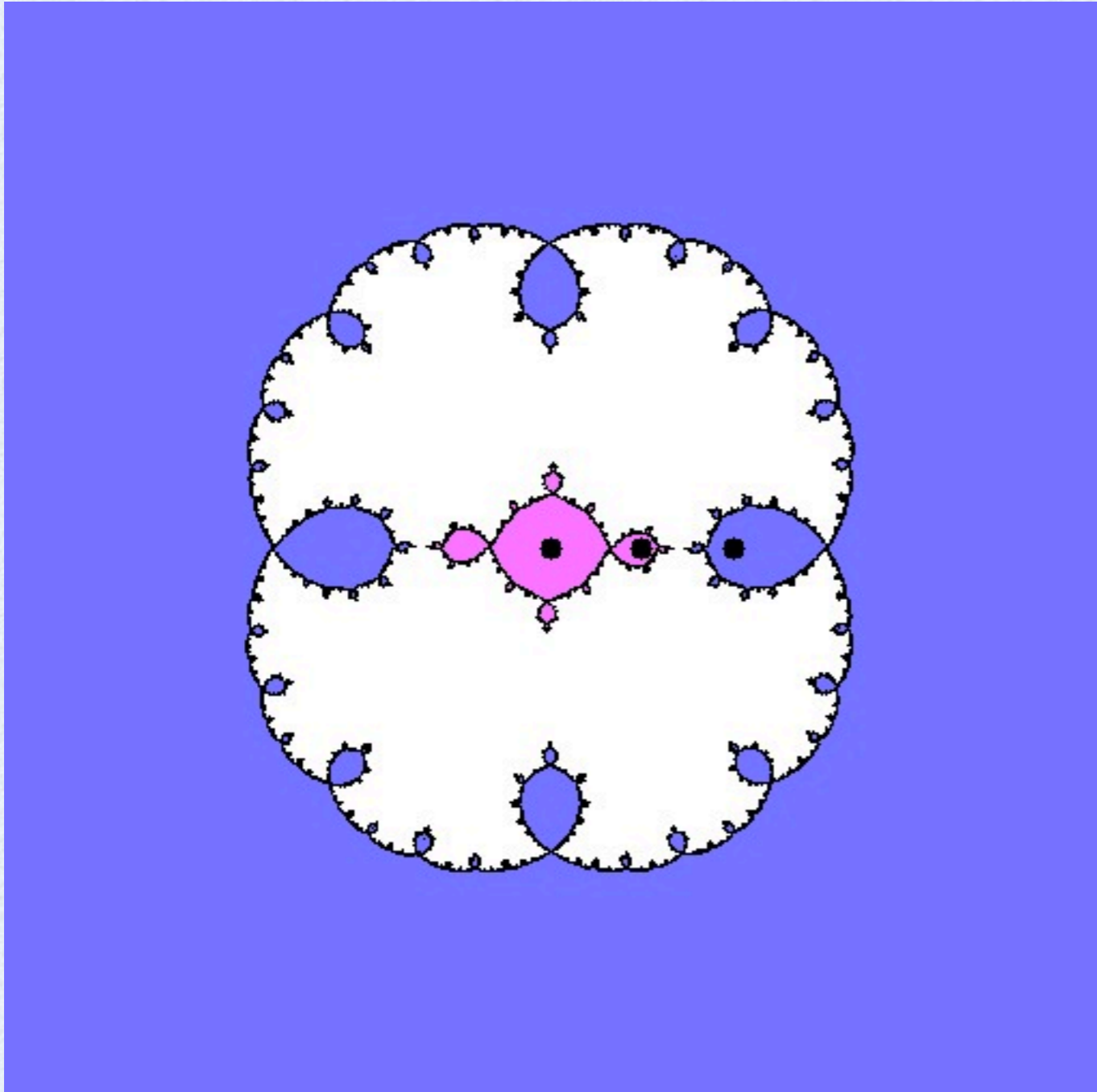
where $F_x(t) = (t^2 - x^2)/(t^2 - 1)$, and $g(x) = x^2$

Proposition. Let $\lambda = e^{2\pi i\alpha}$ be a periodic point of g , hence $\alpha = -k/(2^l - 1)$ for some l . If $k \neq 0$, the rational map $F_\lambda^{\circ l}$ is a geometric twisted mating of angle α of $P^{\circ l}$ with itself.









Compactifying

$$G : \mathbb{P}^2 \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^2, \quad [t : x : z] \mapsto [z^2(t^2 - x^2) : x^2(t^2 - z^2) : z^2(t^2 - z^2)]$$

$$G = \mu \circ s \quad \text{where} \quad s : [t : x : z] \mapsto [t^2 : x^2 : z^2],$$

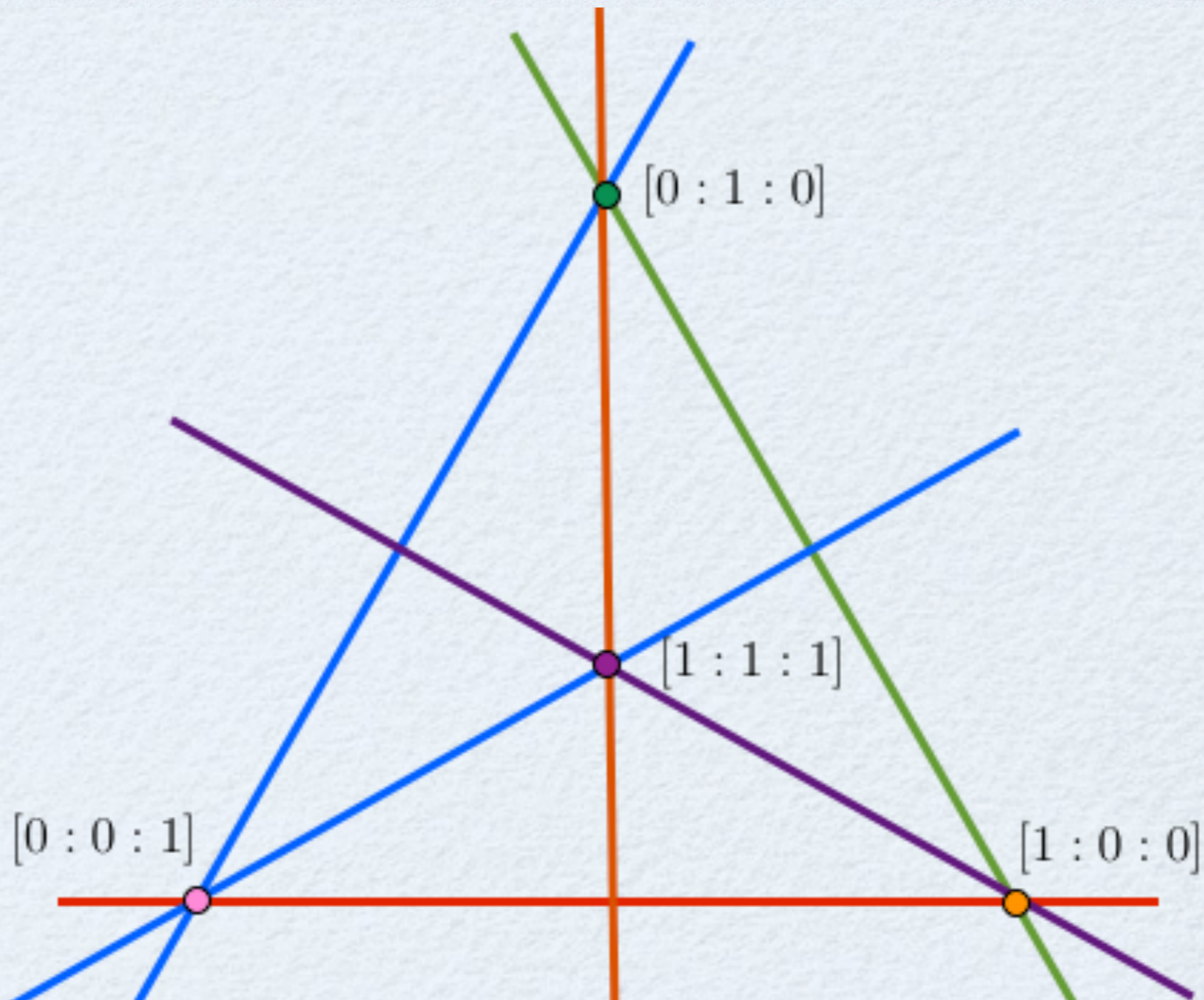
$$\mu : [t, x, z] \mapsto [z(t - x) : x(t - z) : z(t - z)]$$

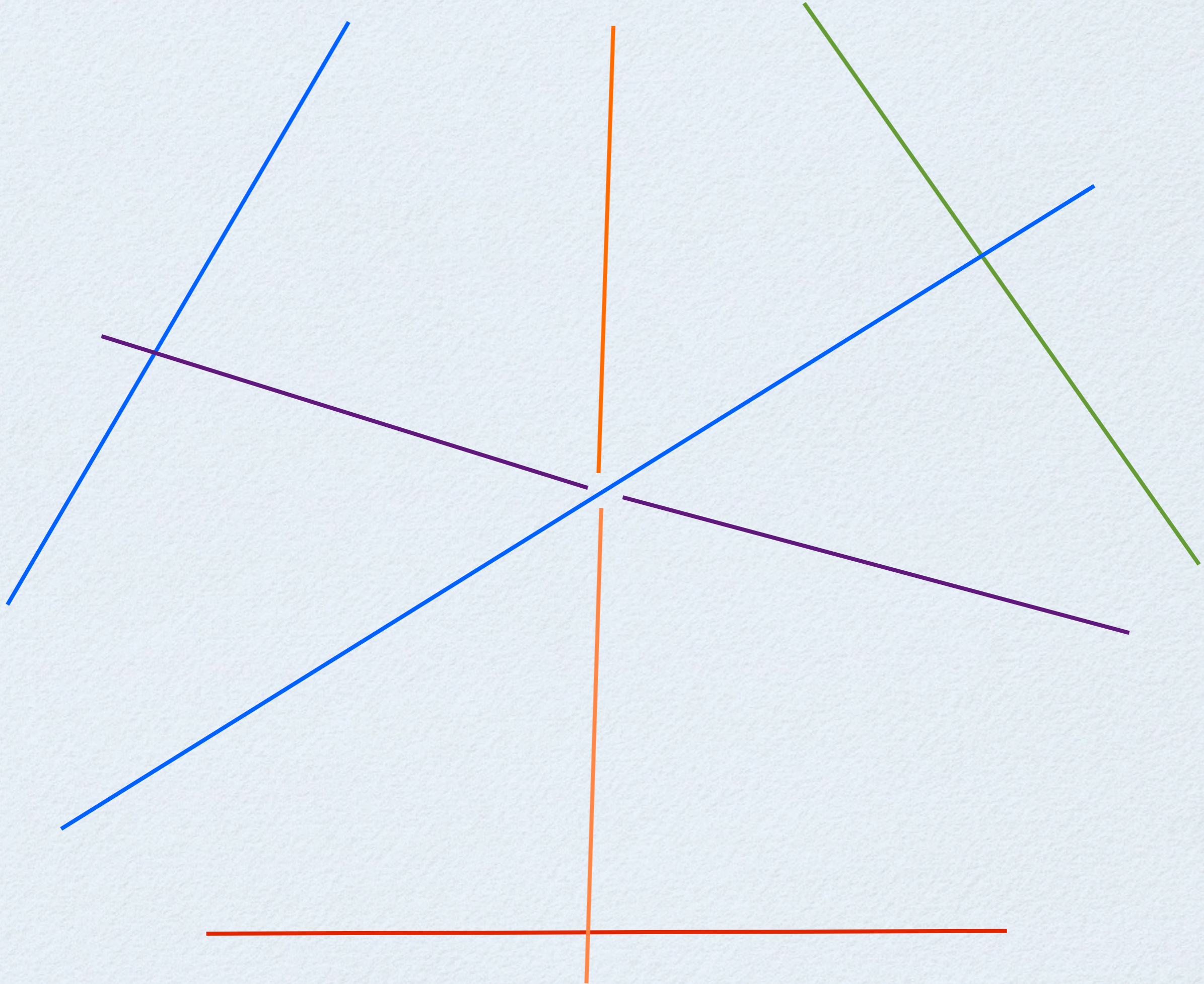
Compactifying

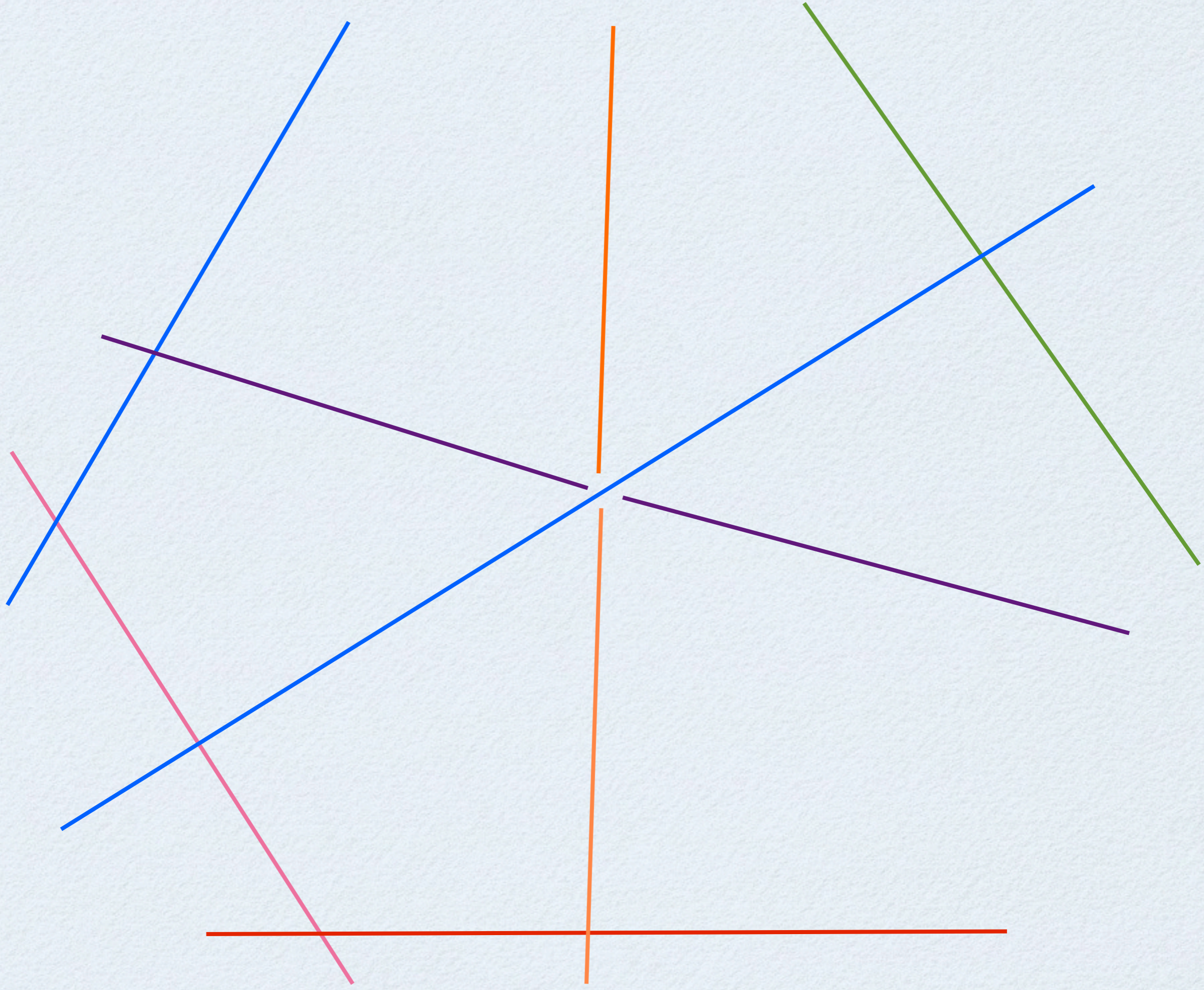
$$G : \mathbb{P}^2 \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^2, \quad [t : x : z] \mapsto [z^2(t^2 - x^2) : x^2(t^2 - z^2) : z^2(t^2 - z^2)]$$

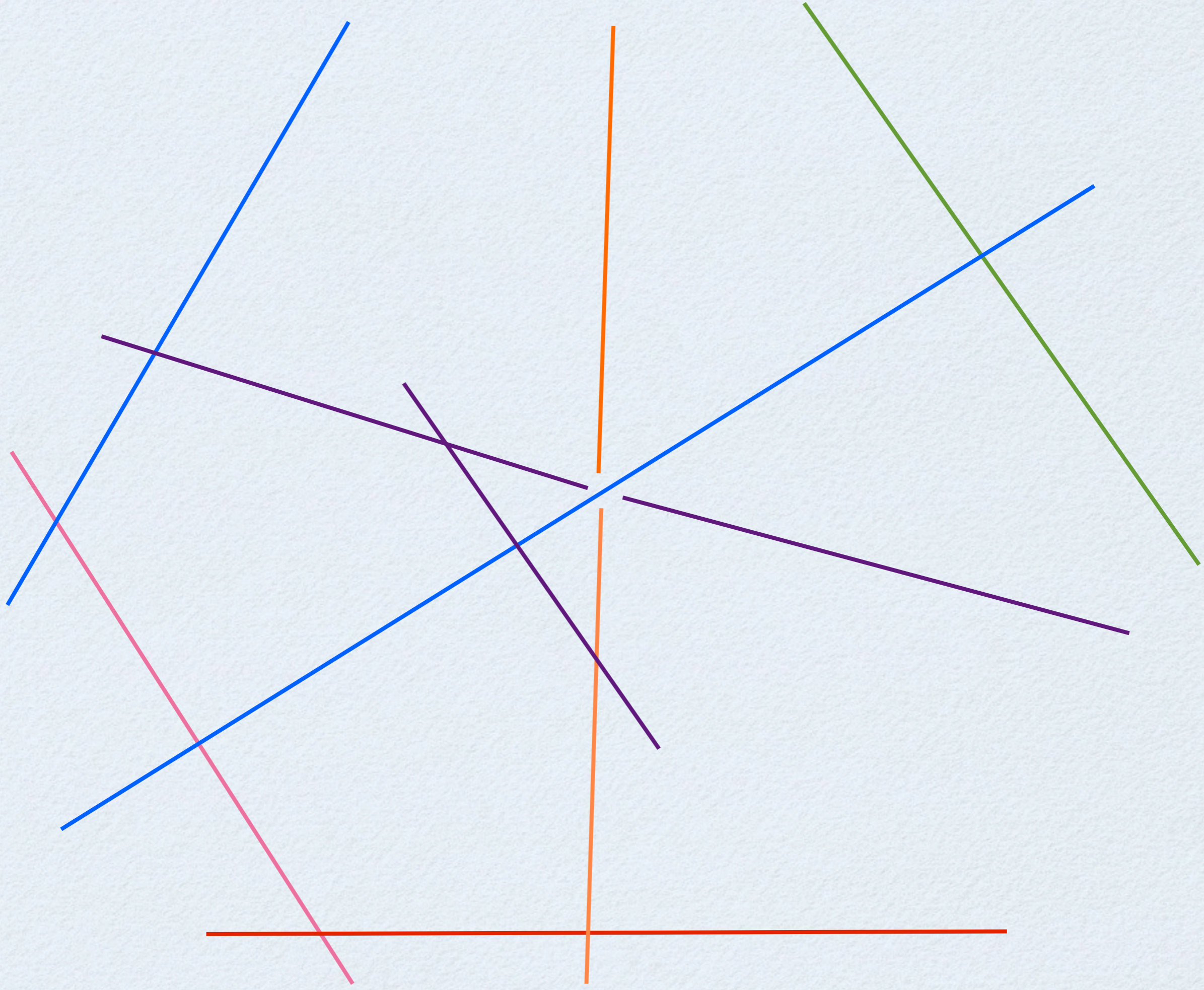
$$G = \mu \circ s \quad \text{where} \quad s : [t : x : z] \mapsto [t^2 : x^2 : z^2],$$

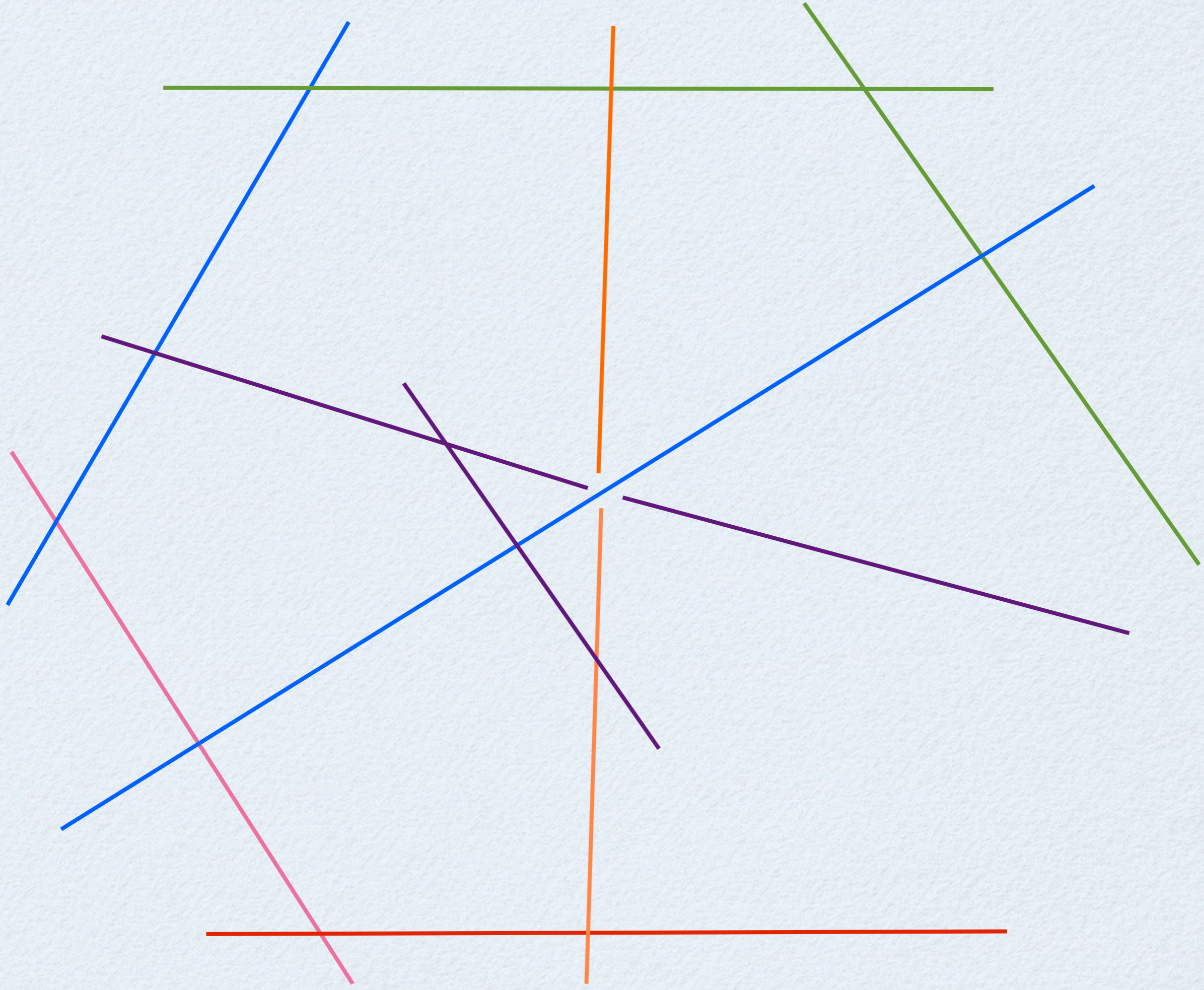
$$\mu : [t, x, z] \mapsto [z(t - x) : x(t - z) : z(t - z)]$$

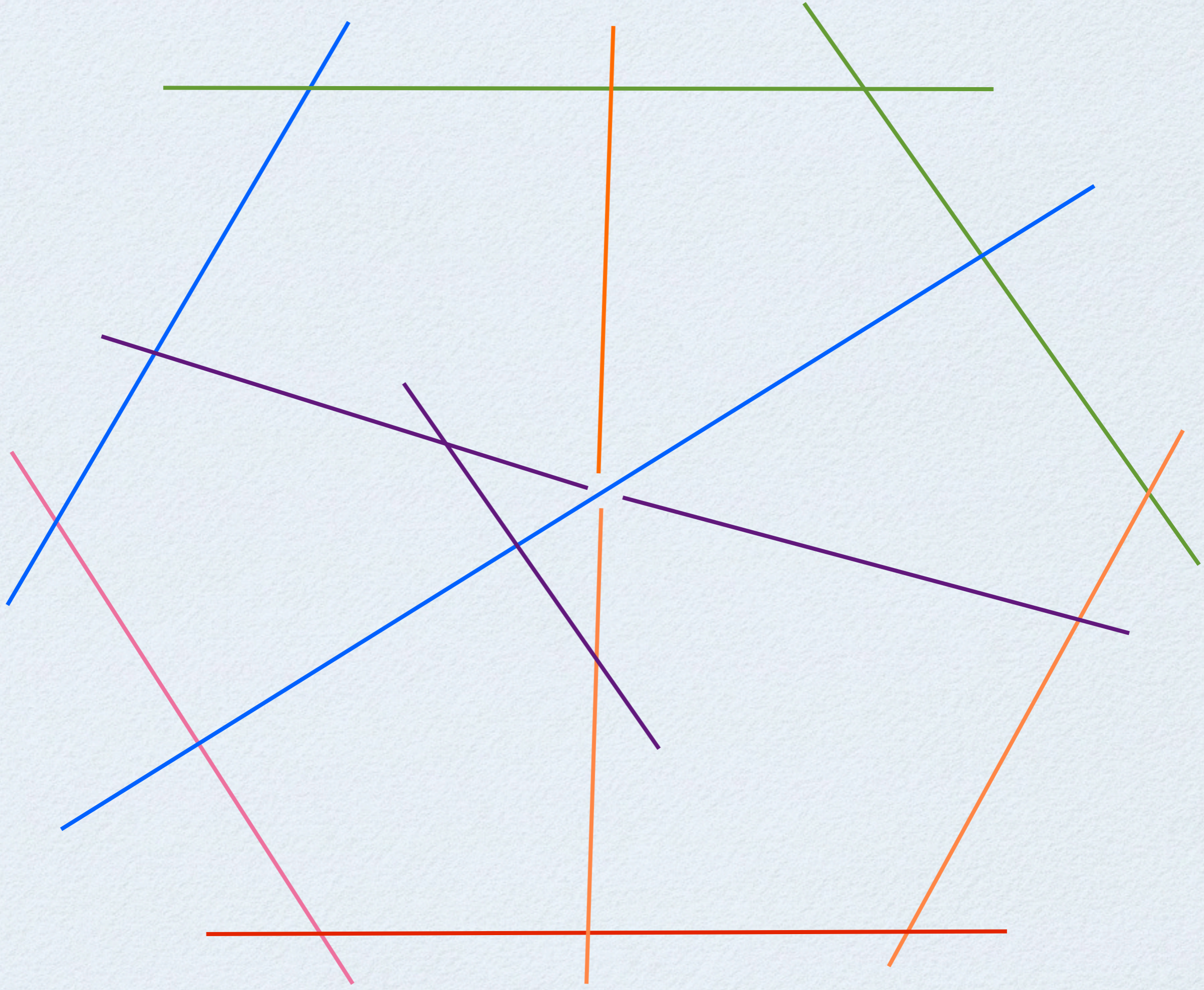


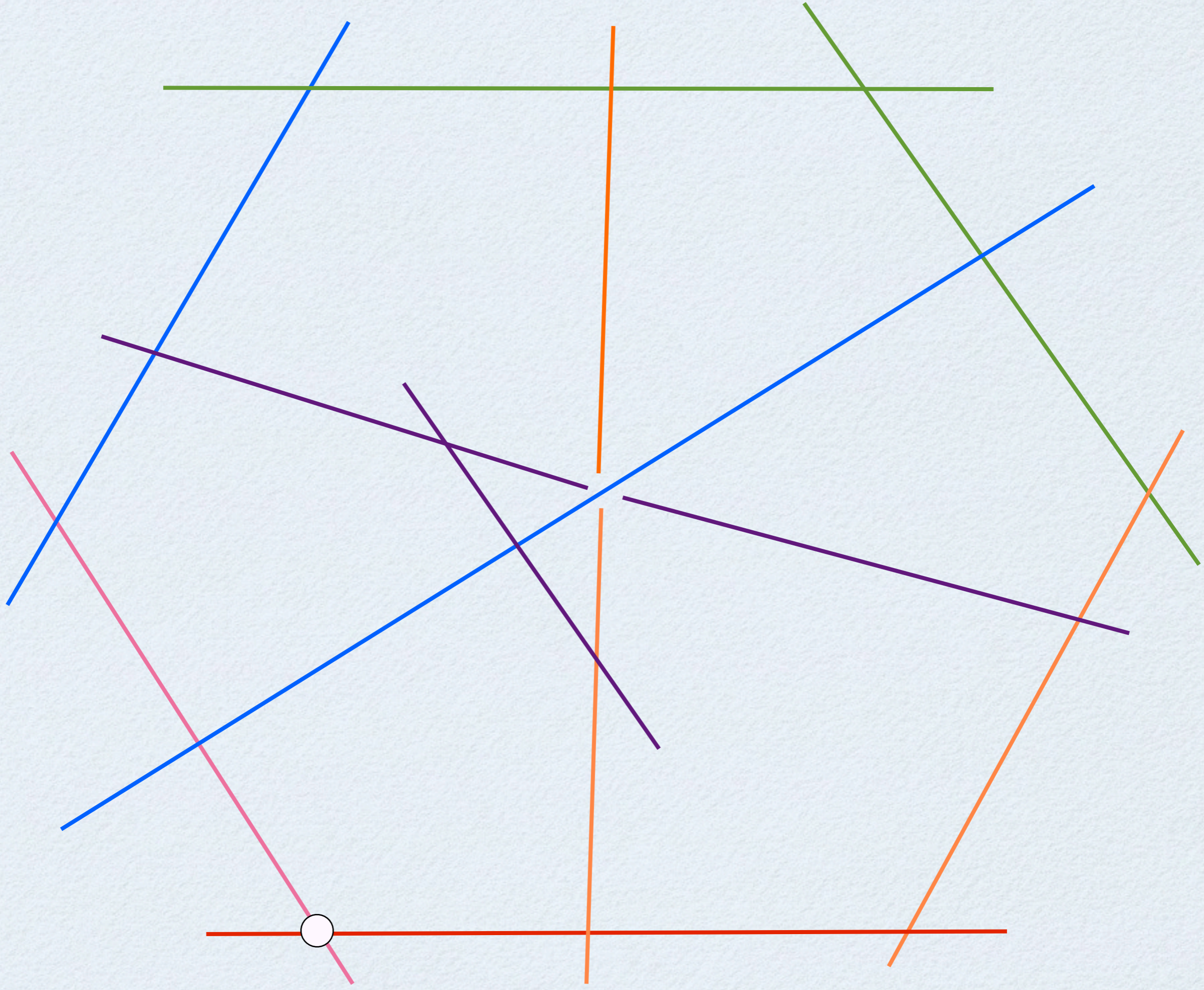


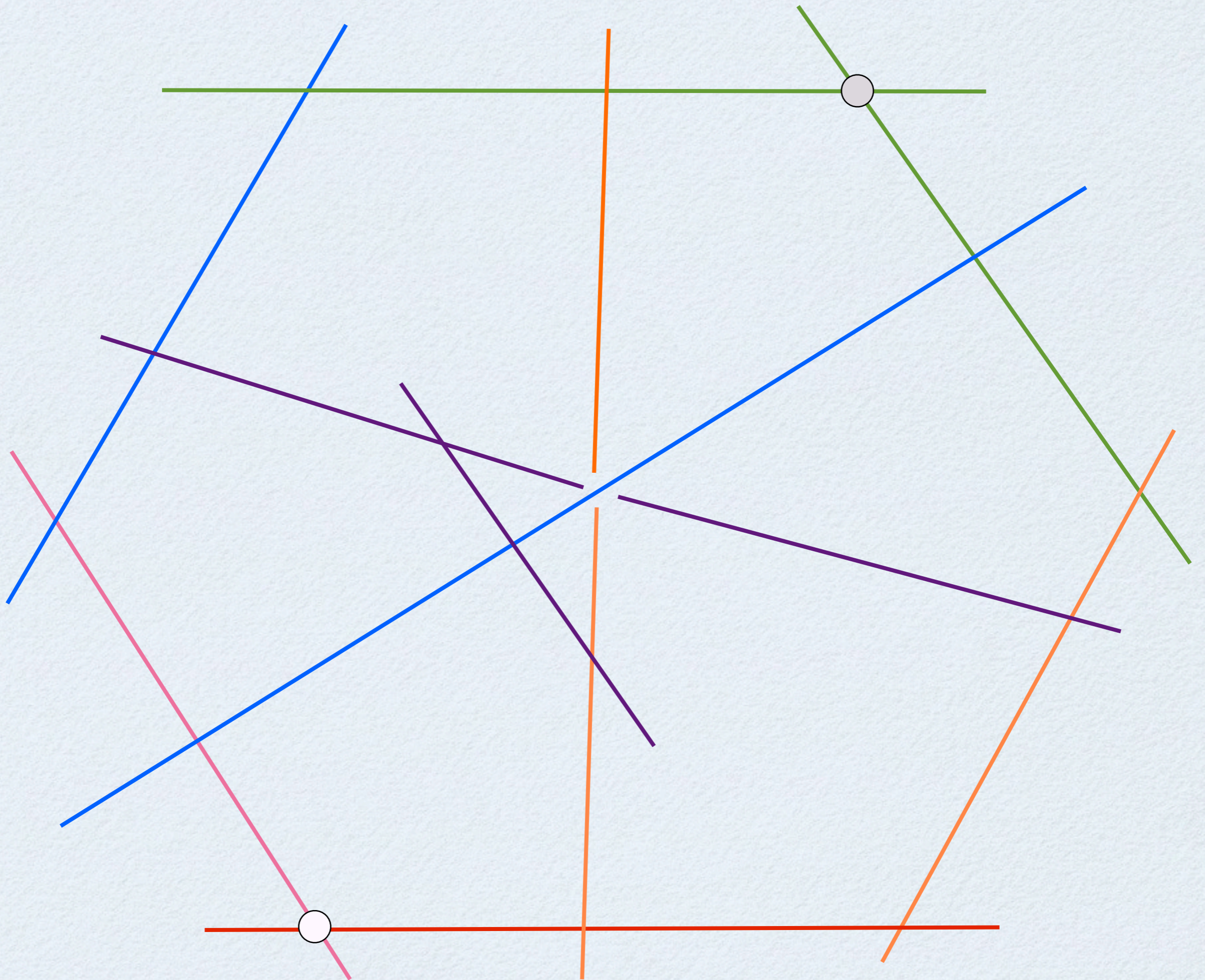


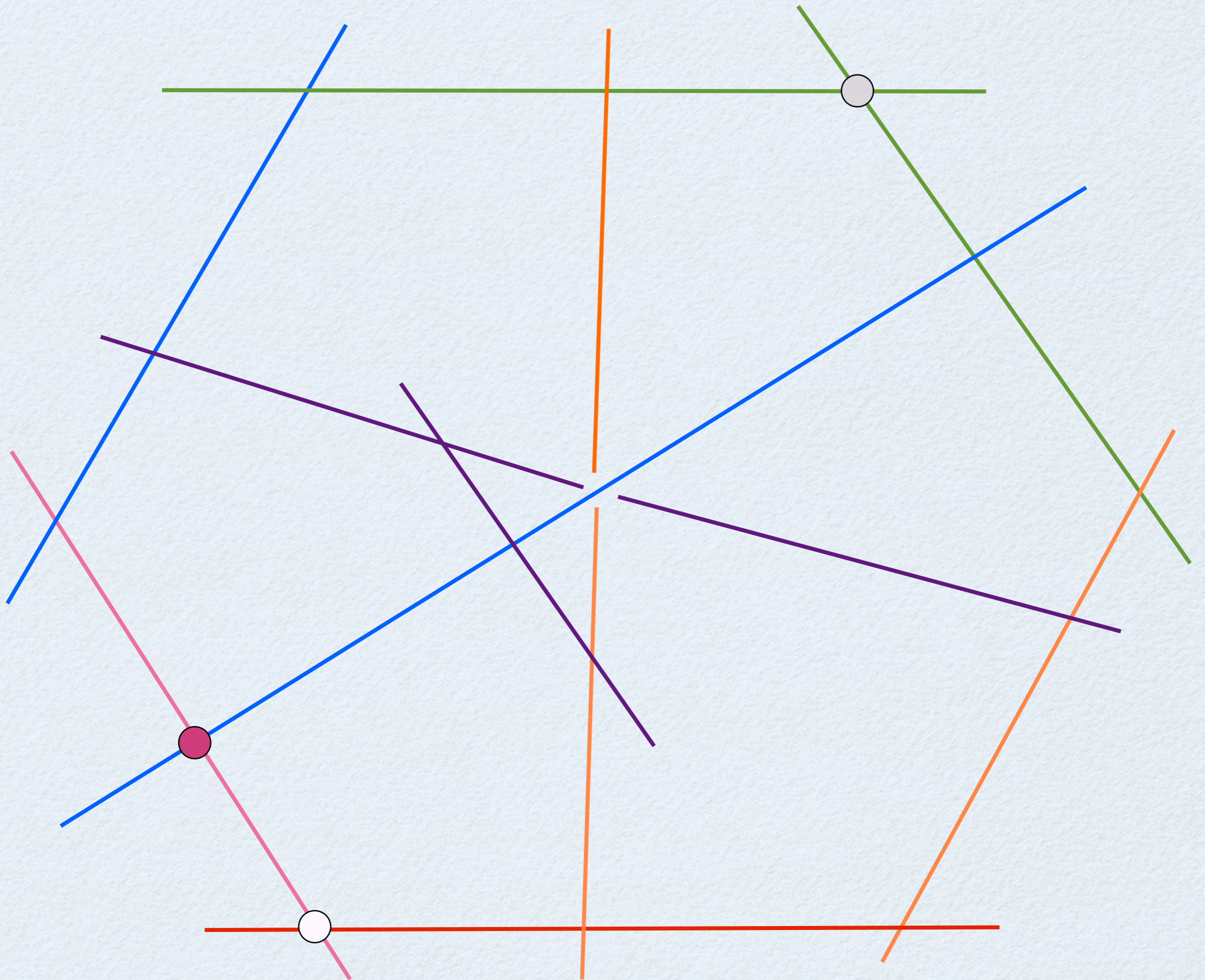


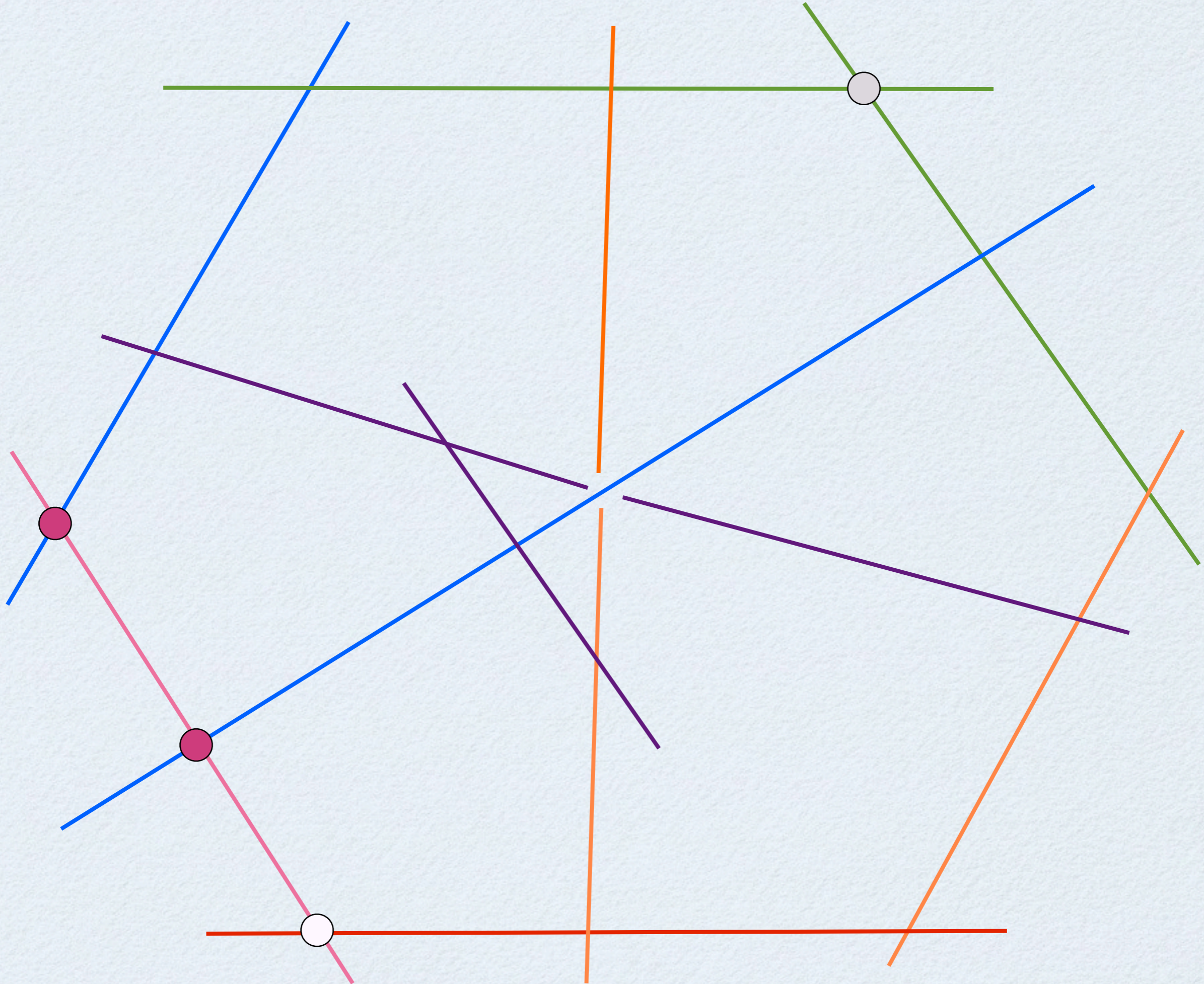


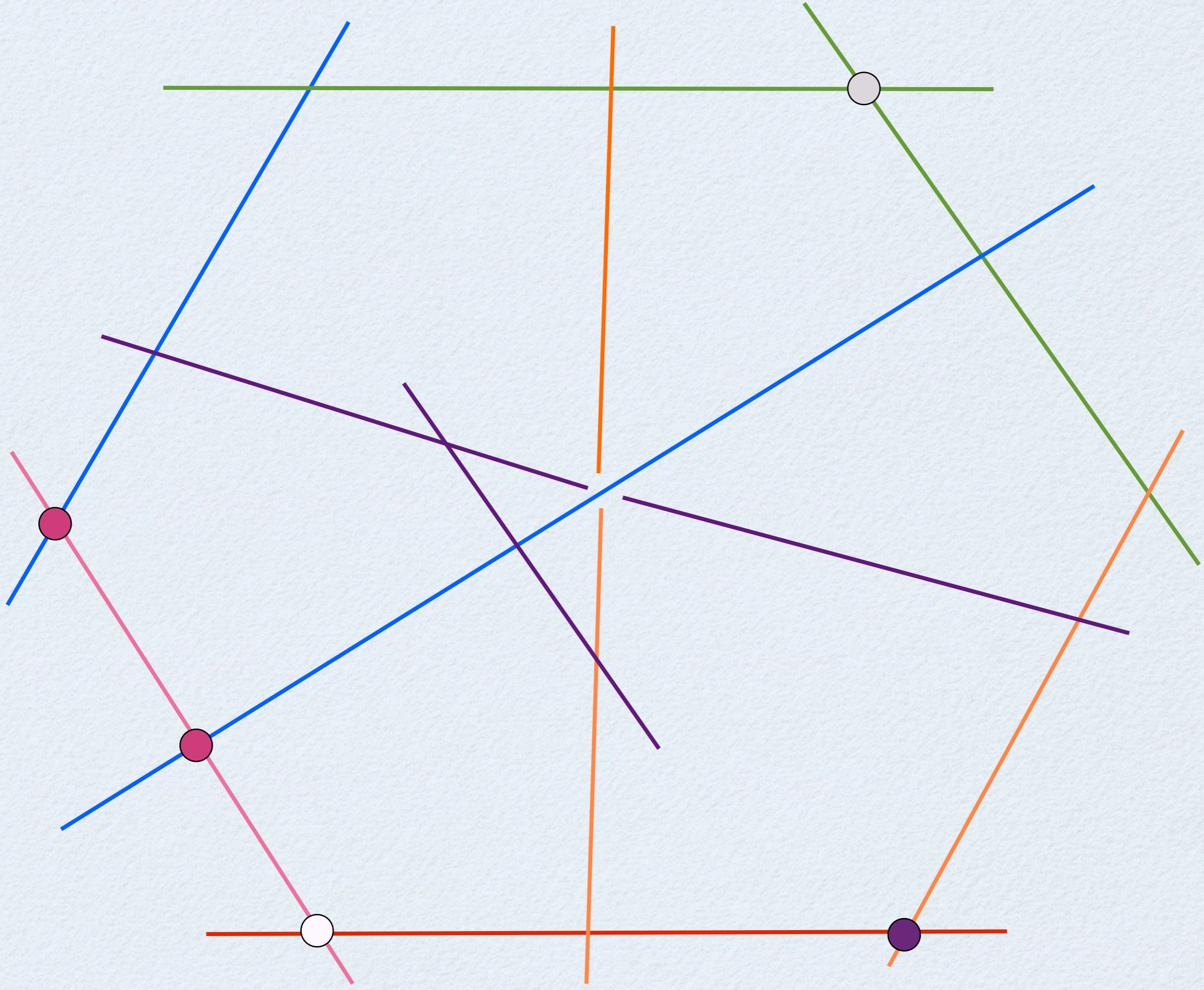


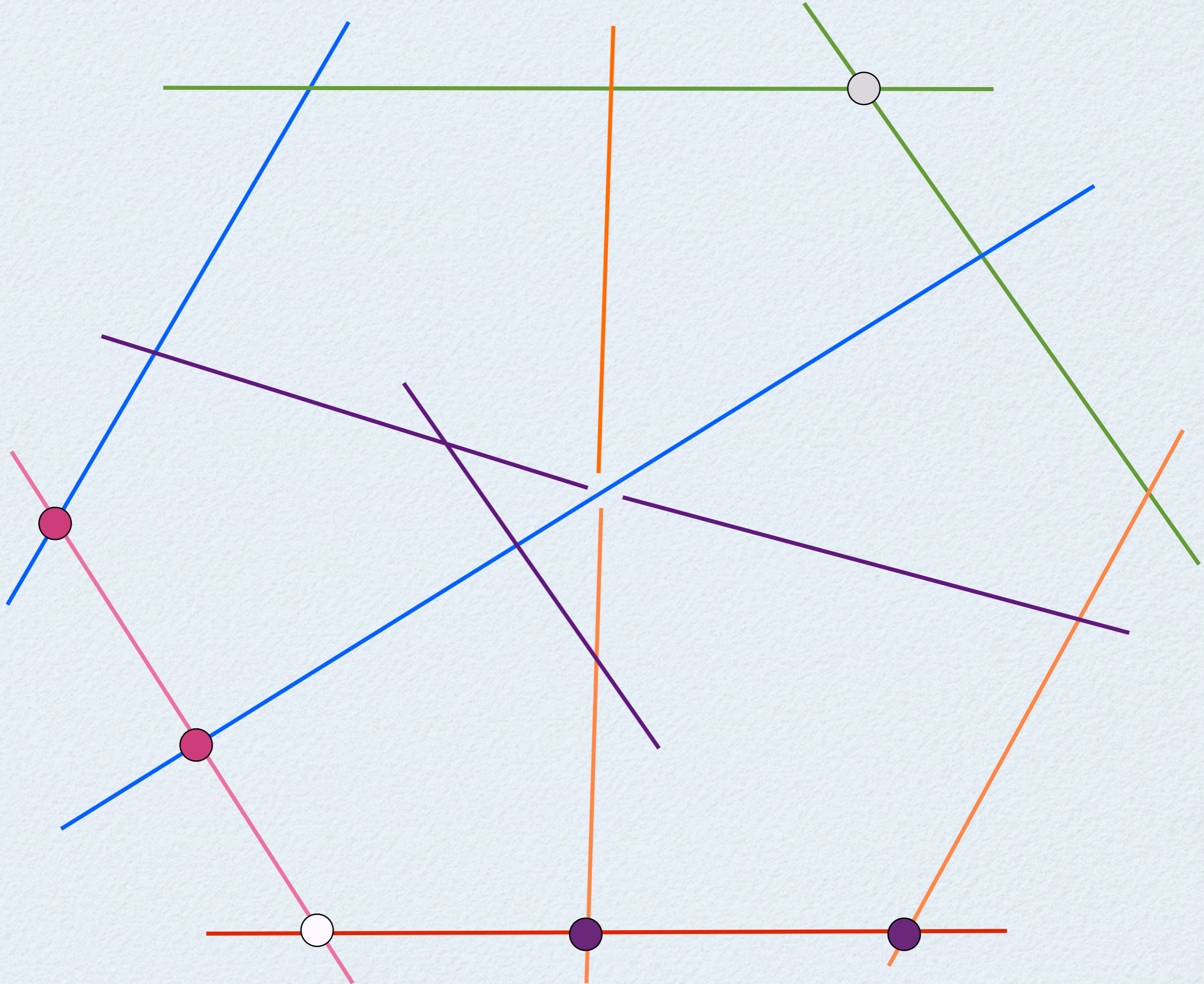


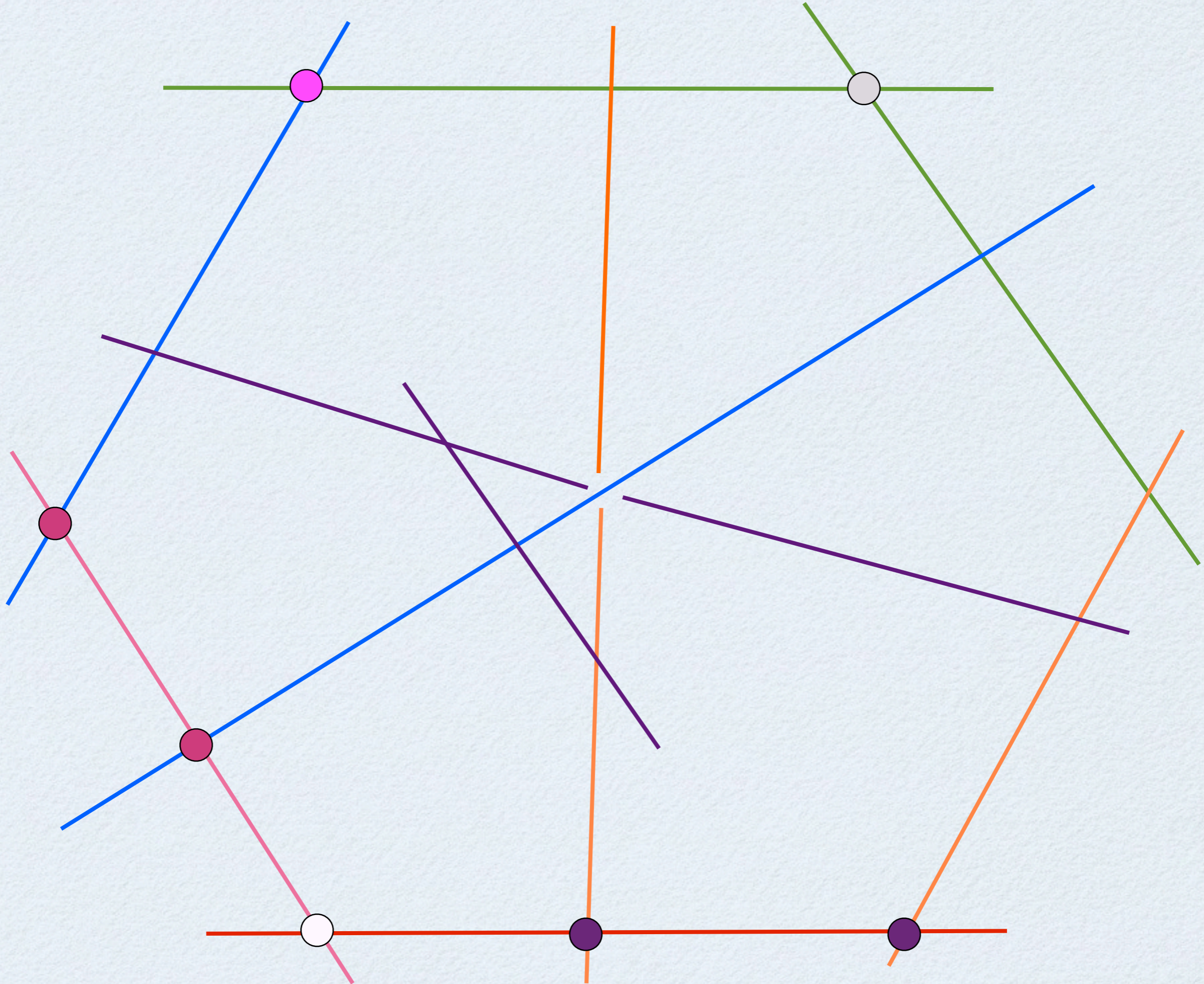


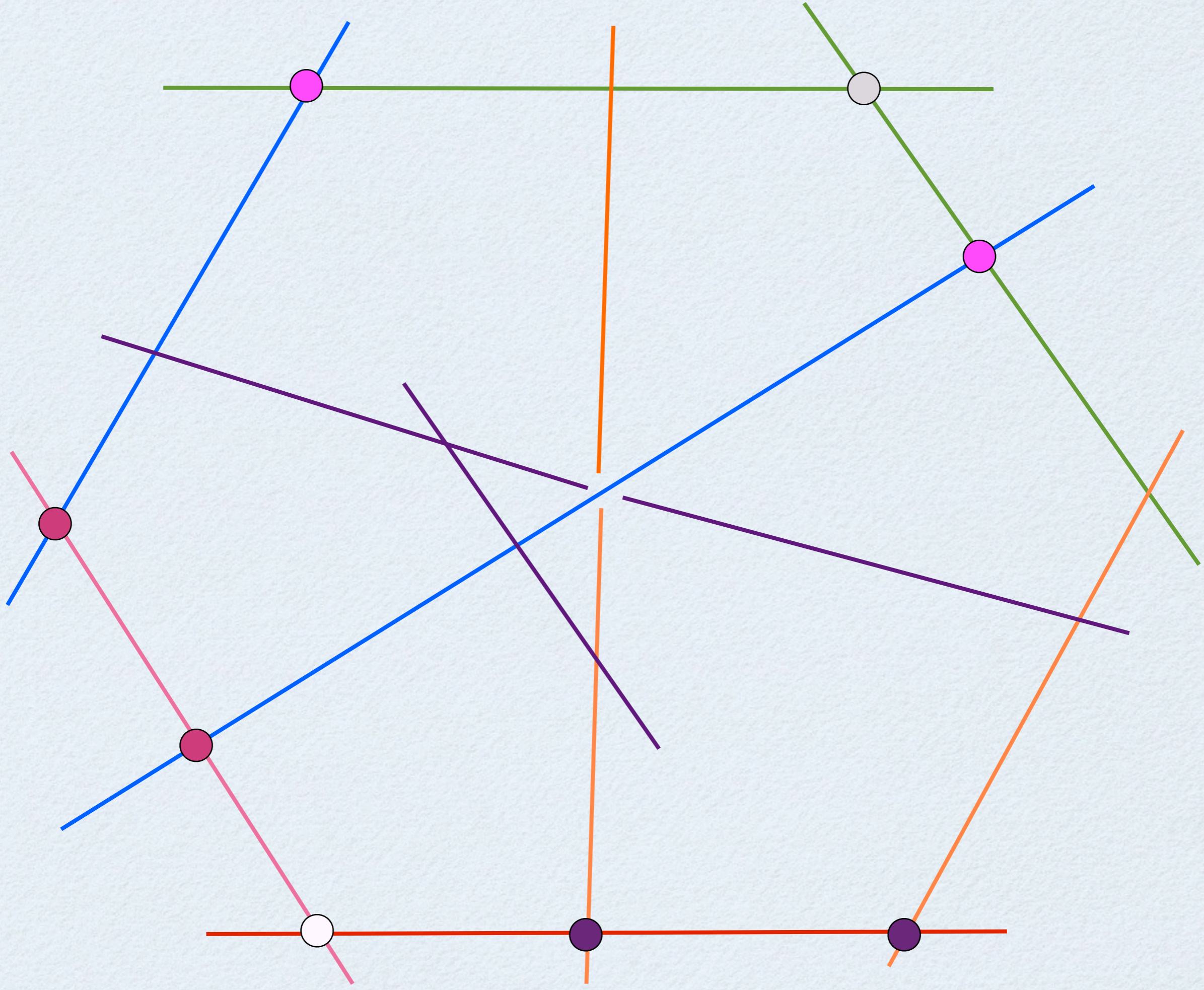


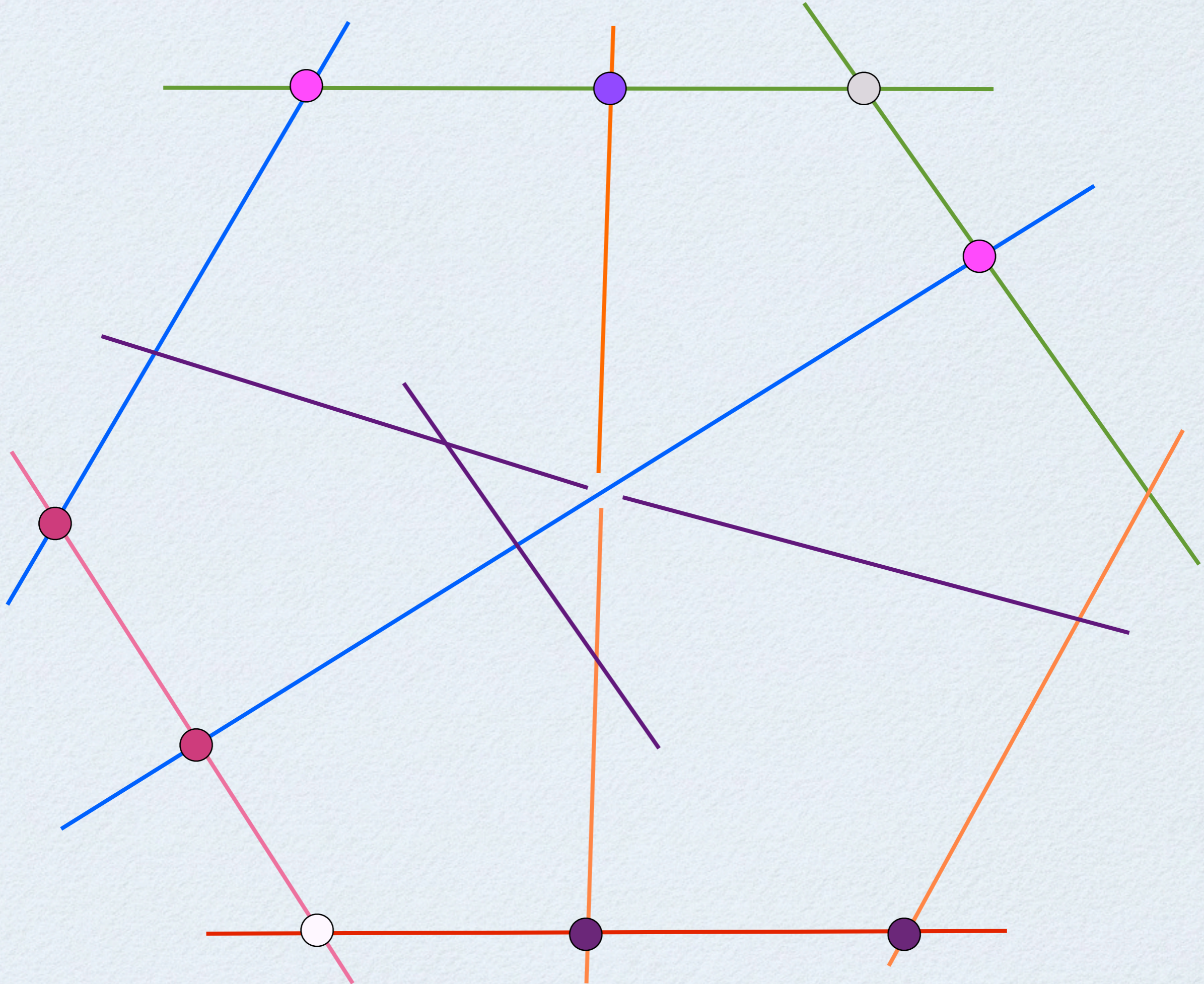


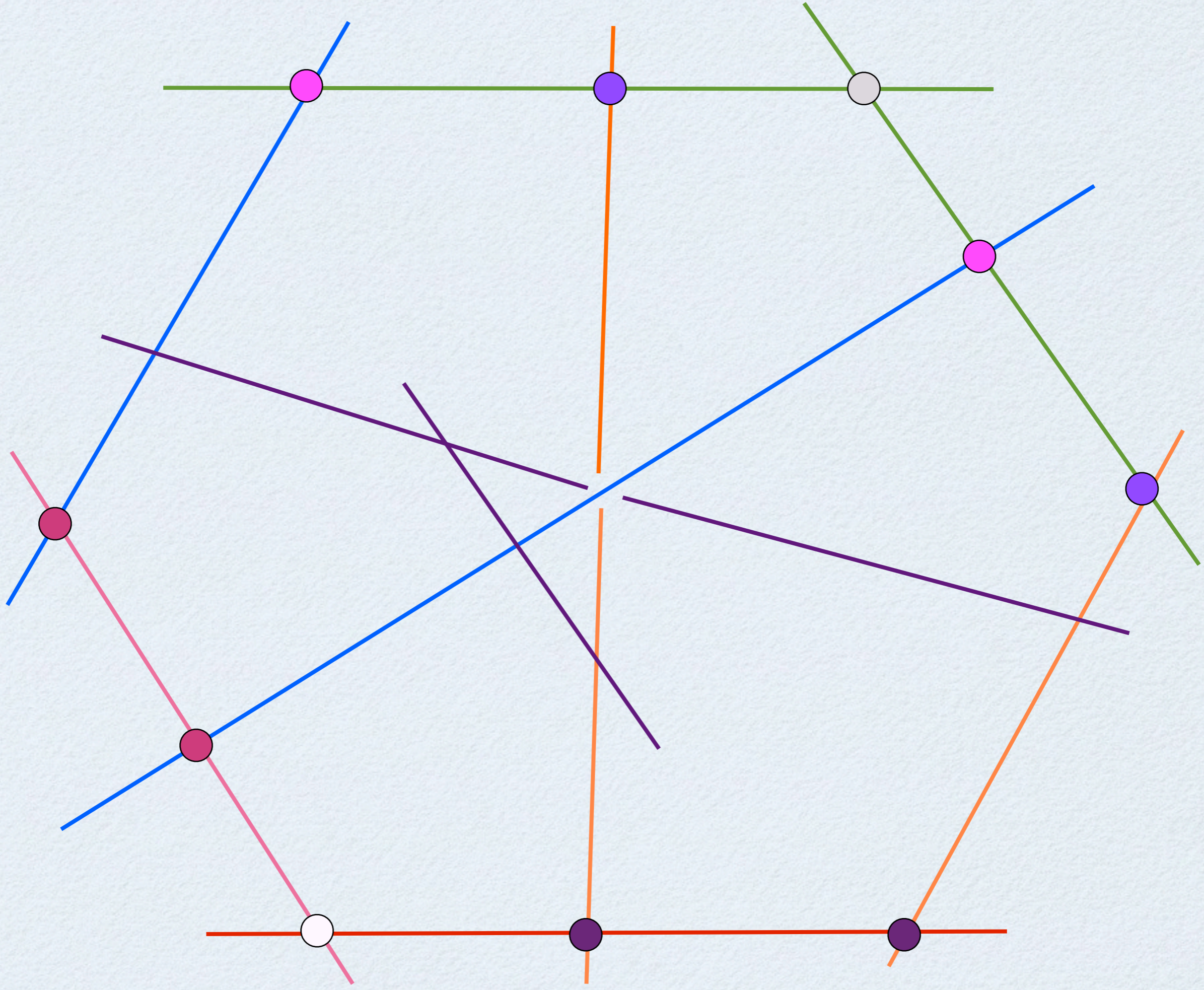






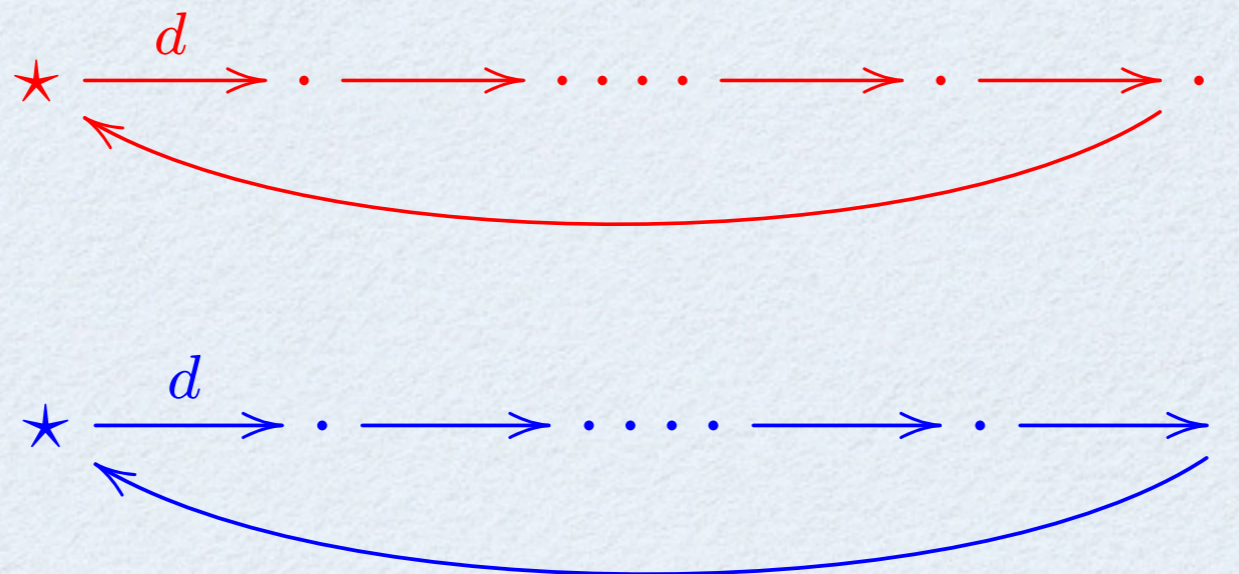






In general....

Let $f : (S^2, P) \rightarrow (S^2, P)$ be the formal mating of two critically finite hyperbolic polynomials which are unicritical.



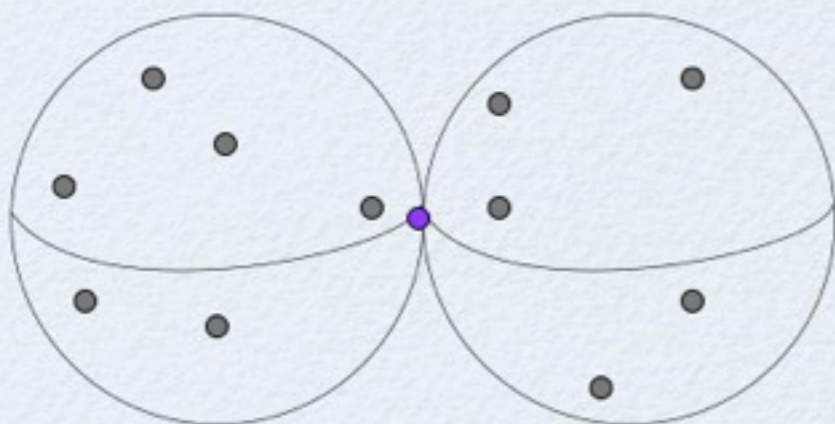
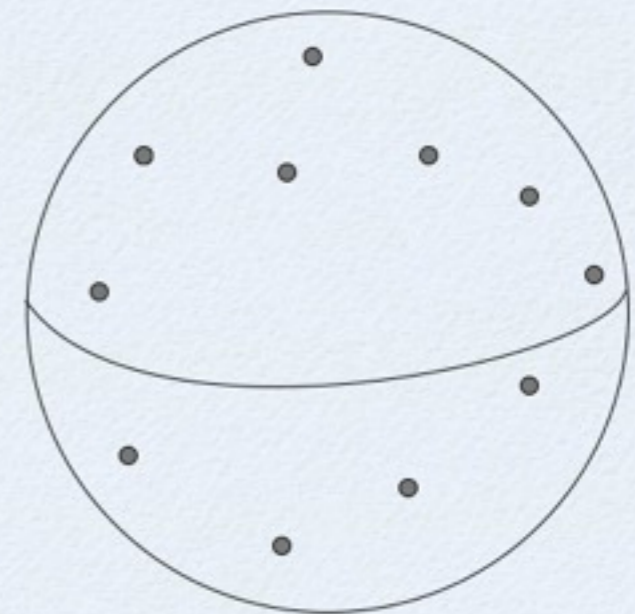
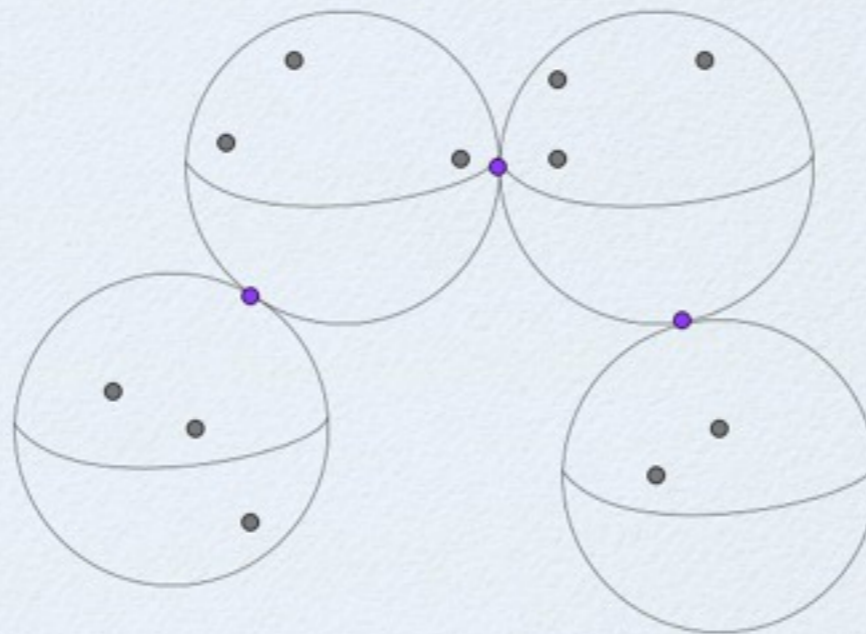
Then a moduli space map exists $g : \mathcal{M}_P \dashrightarrow \mathcal{M}_P$, and we examine the associated skew product

$$G : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n \quad \text{given by} \quad G : \begin{pmatrix} t \\ \mathbf{x} \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} F_{\mathbf{x}}(t) \\ g(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}$$

Proposition. The map $G = \mu \circ s$, where $s : \mathbb{P}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$ is the d th power map, and $\mu : \mathbb{P}^n \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$ is a birational transformation of \mathbb{P}^n induced by the permutation of P coming from the ramification portrait.

A sufficient compactification

Suppose $|P| = n$, and consider \mathcal{M}_P .

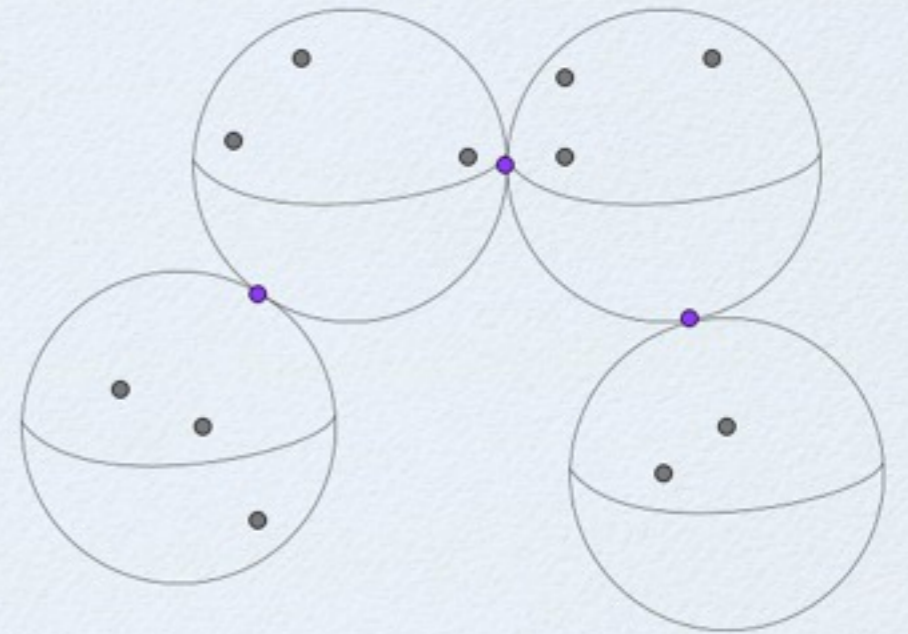


Compactify \mathcal{M}_P so that the points on the boundary correspond to different ways to collapse curves to nodes.

Instead of a \mathbb{P}^1 with marked points, we have a *stable curve* with marked points and nodes.

Compactify \mathcal{M}_P so that the points on the boundary correspond to different ways to collapse curves to nodes.

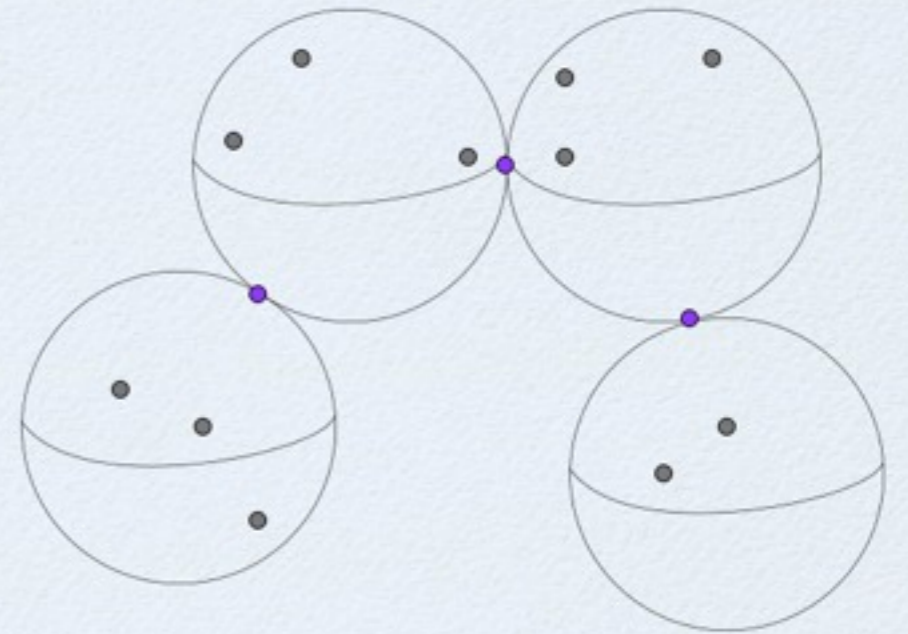
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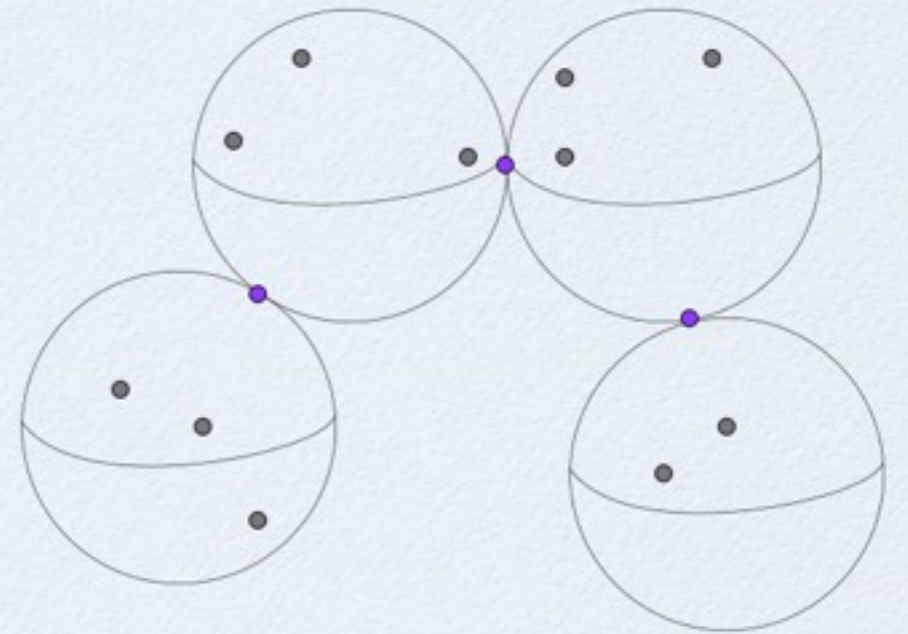
This is known as the Deligne-Mumford compactification of \mathcal{M}_P , which we denote as $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_n$.



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Example: Suppose $|P| = 4$, and normalize, identifying

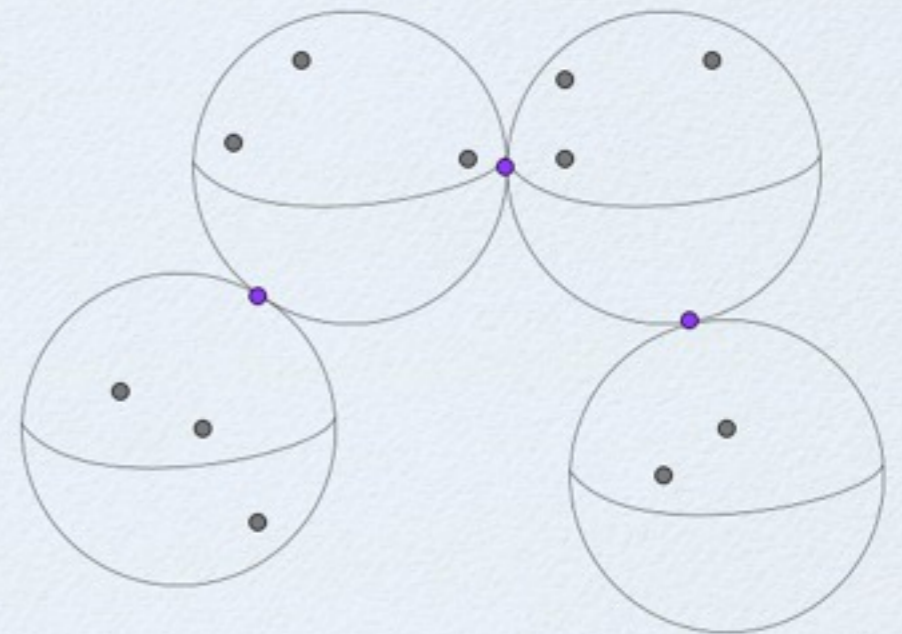
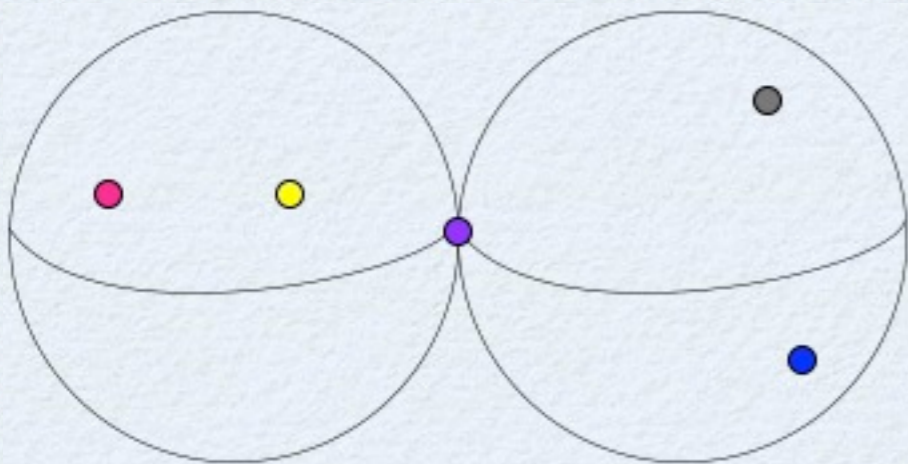
$$\mathcal{M}_P \approx \mathbb{P}^1 - \Delta,$$

$$\Delta = \{0, 1, \infty\}$$

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Example: Suppose $|P| = 4$, and normalize, identifying

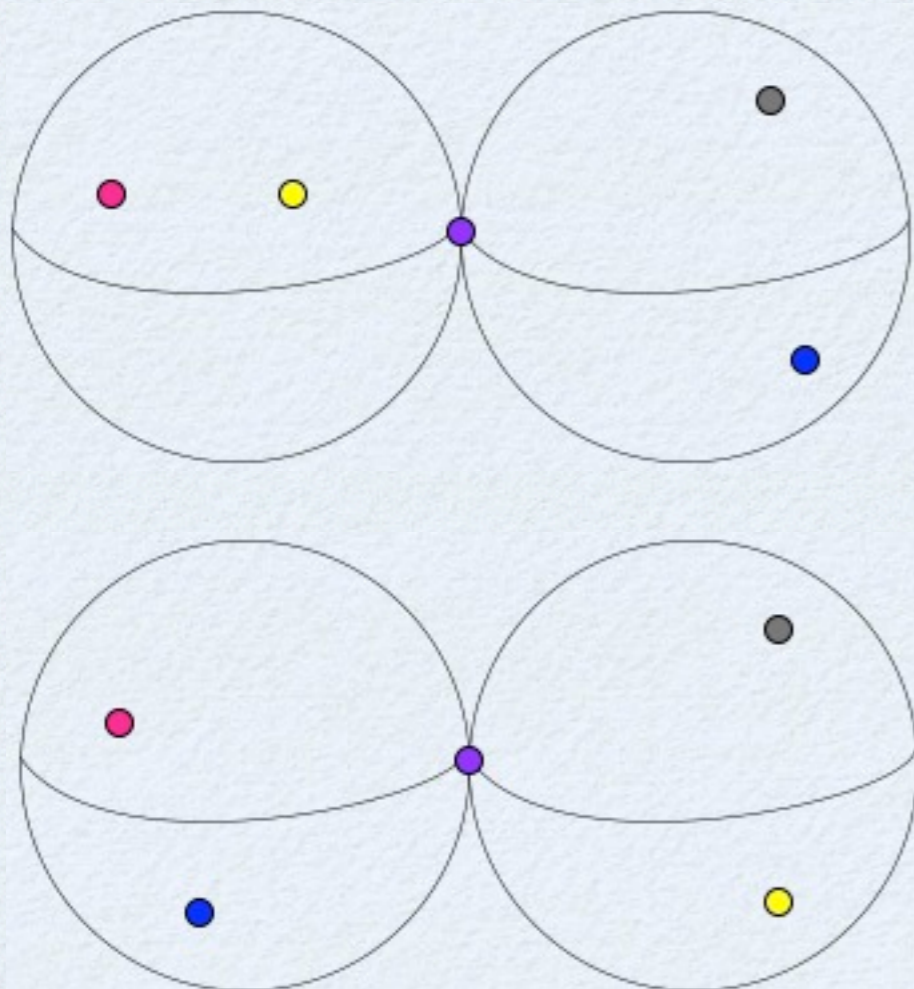
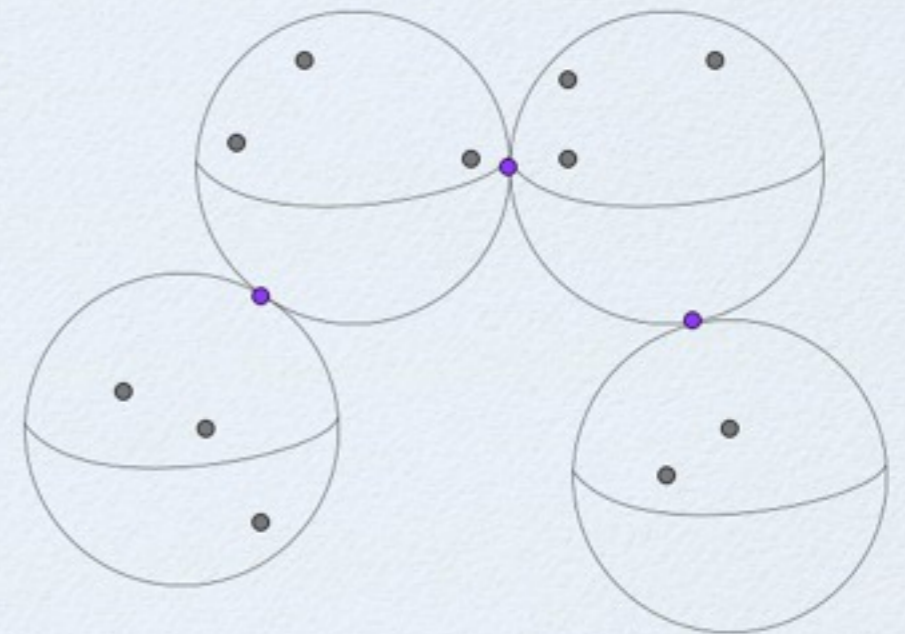
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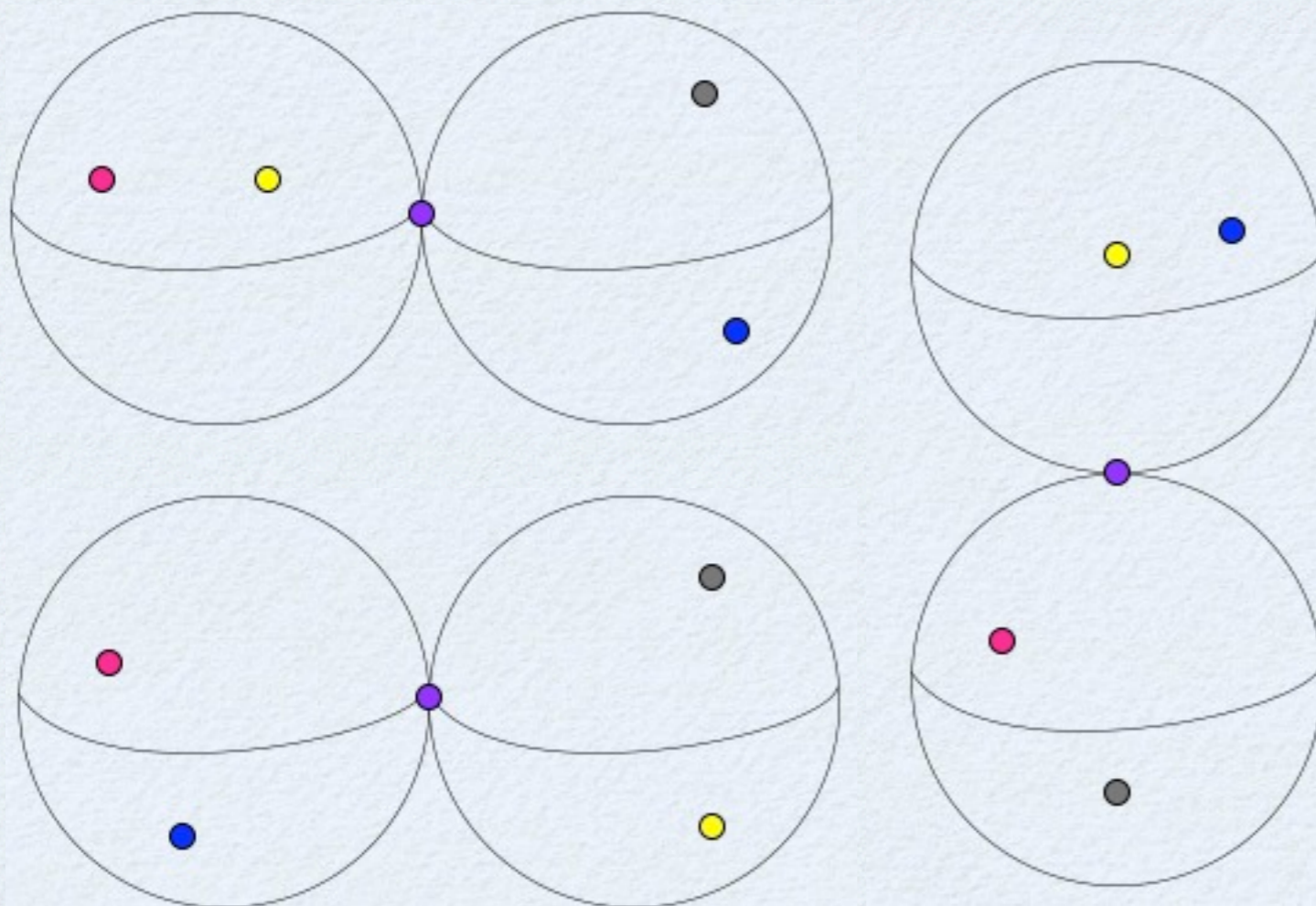
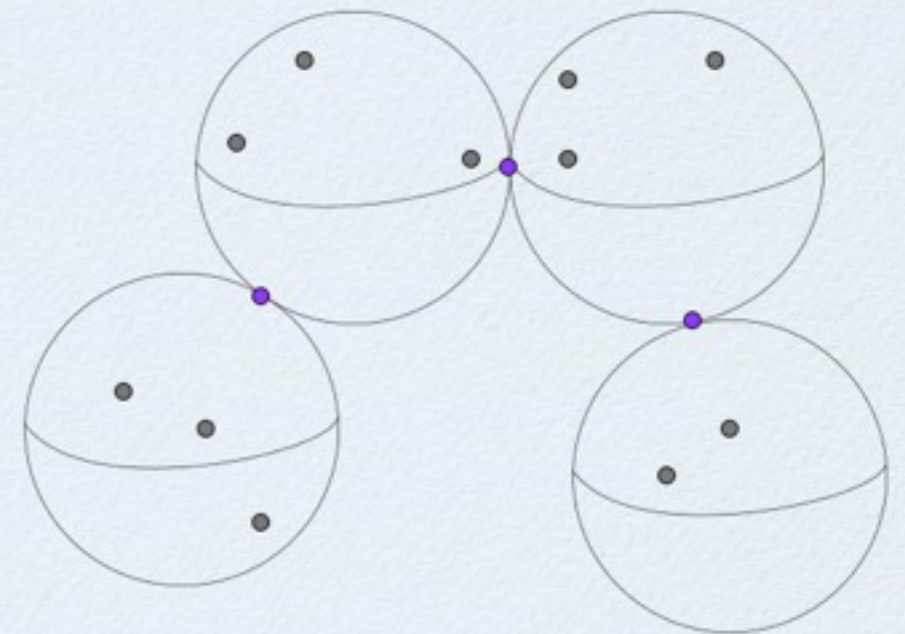
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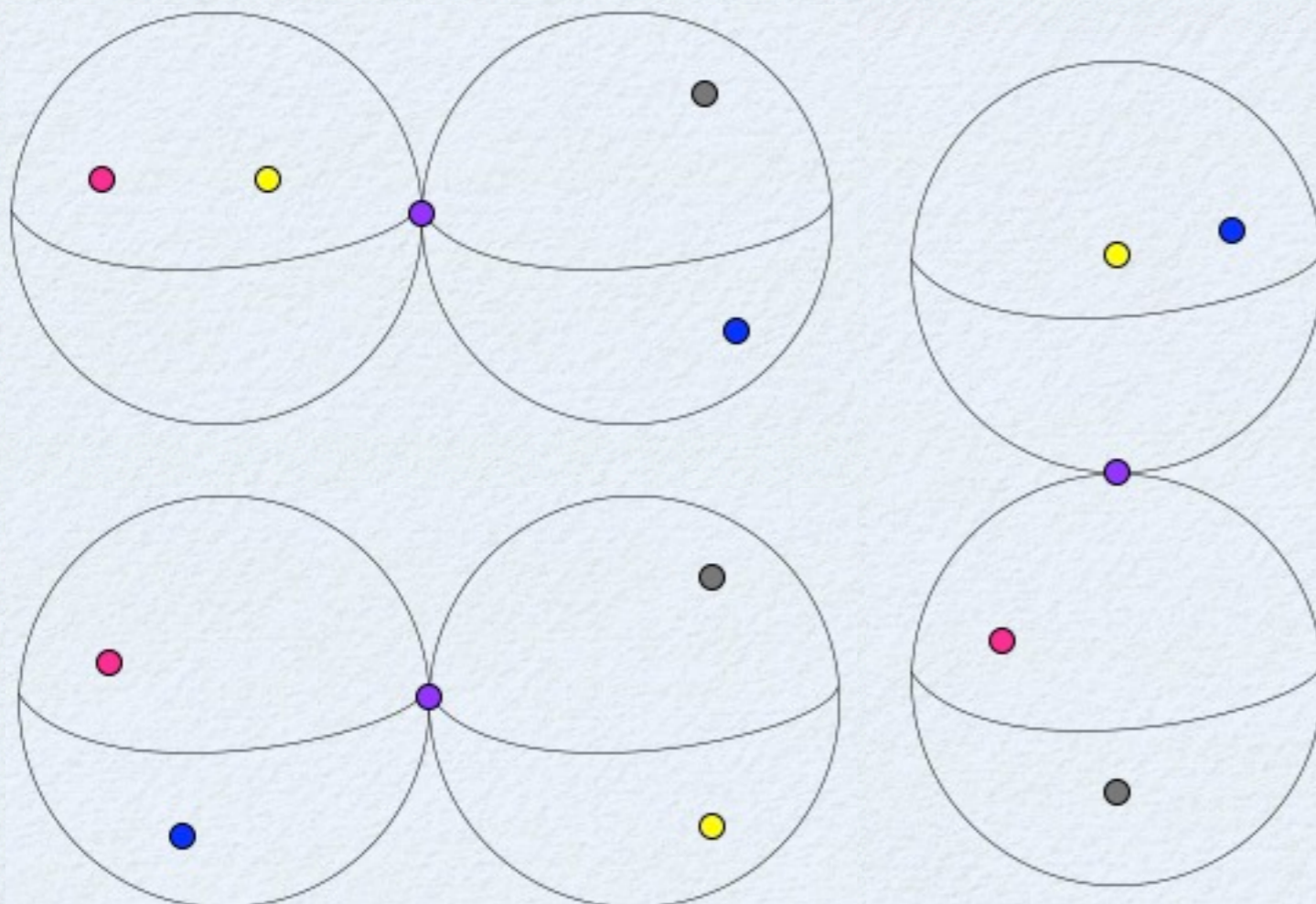
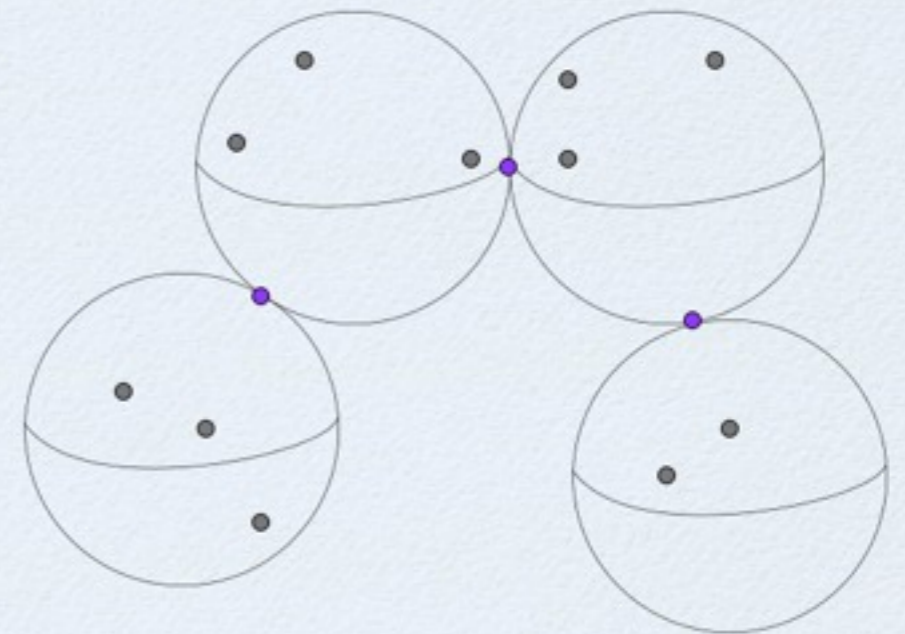
$$\mathcal{M}_P \approx \mathbb{P}^1 - \Delta,$$

$$\Delta = \{0, 1, \infty\}$$

Compactify \mathcal{M}_P so that the points on the boundary correspond to different ways to collapse curves to nodes.

Instead of a \mathbb{P}^1 with marked points, we have a *stable curve* with marked points and nodes.

This is known as the Deligne-Mumford compactification of \mathcal{M}_P , which we denote as $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_n$.

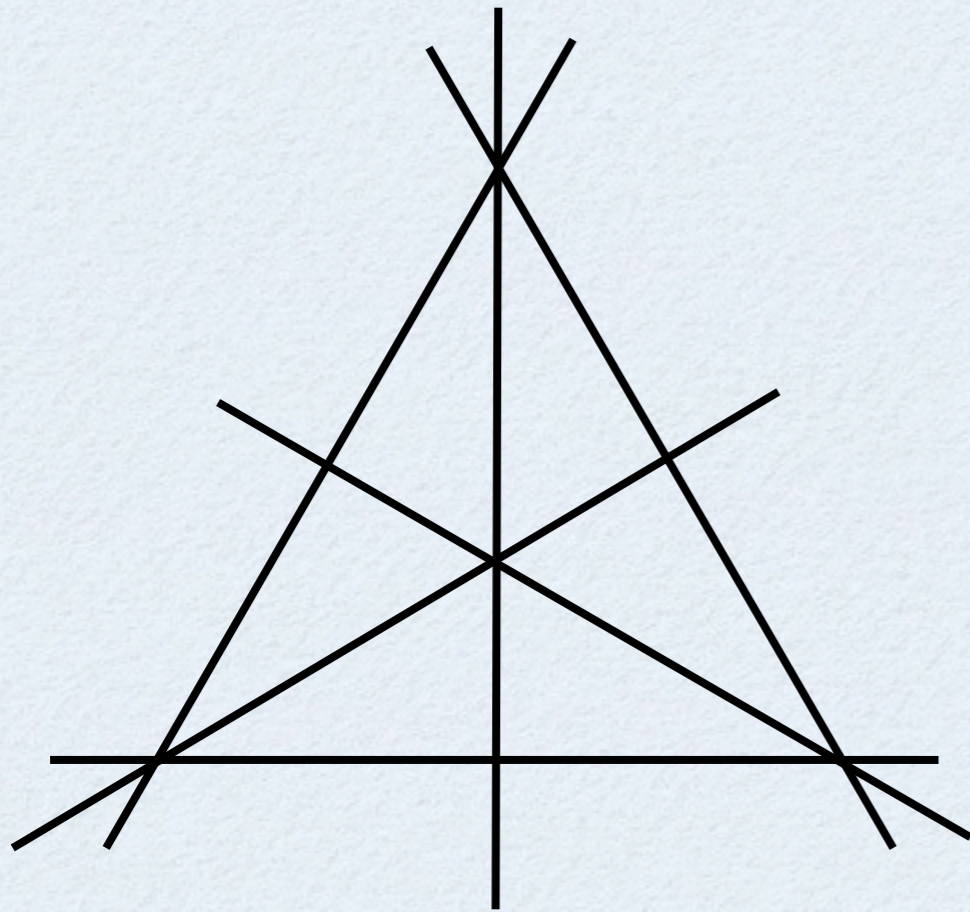


Example: Suppose $|P| = 4$, and normalize, identifying

$$\mathcal{M}_P \approx \mathbb{P}^1 - \Delta,$$

$$\Delta = \{0, 1, \infty\}$$

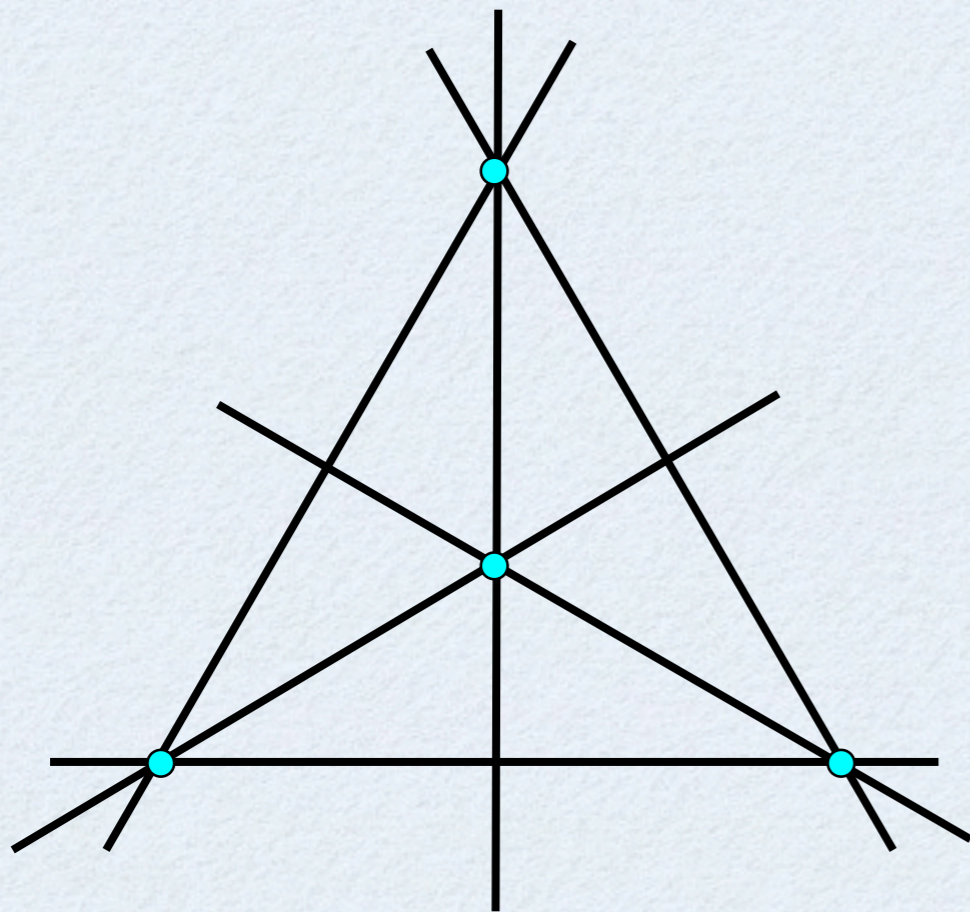
$$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_4 \approx \mathbb{P}^1$$



Example: Suppose $|P| = 5$, and normalize, identifying

$$\mathcal{M}_P \approx \mathbb{P}^2 - \Delta,$$

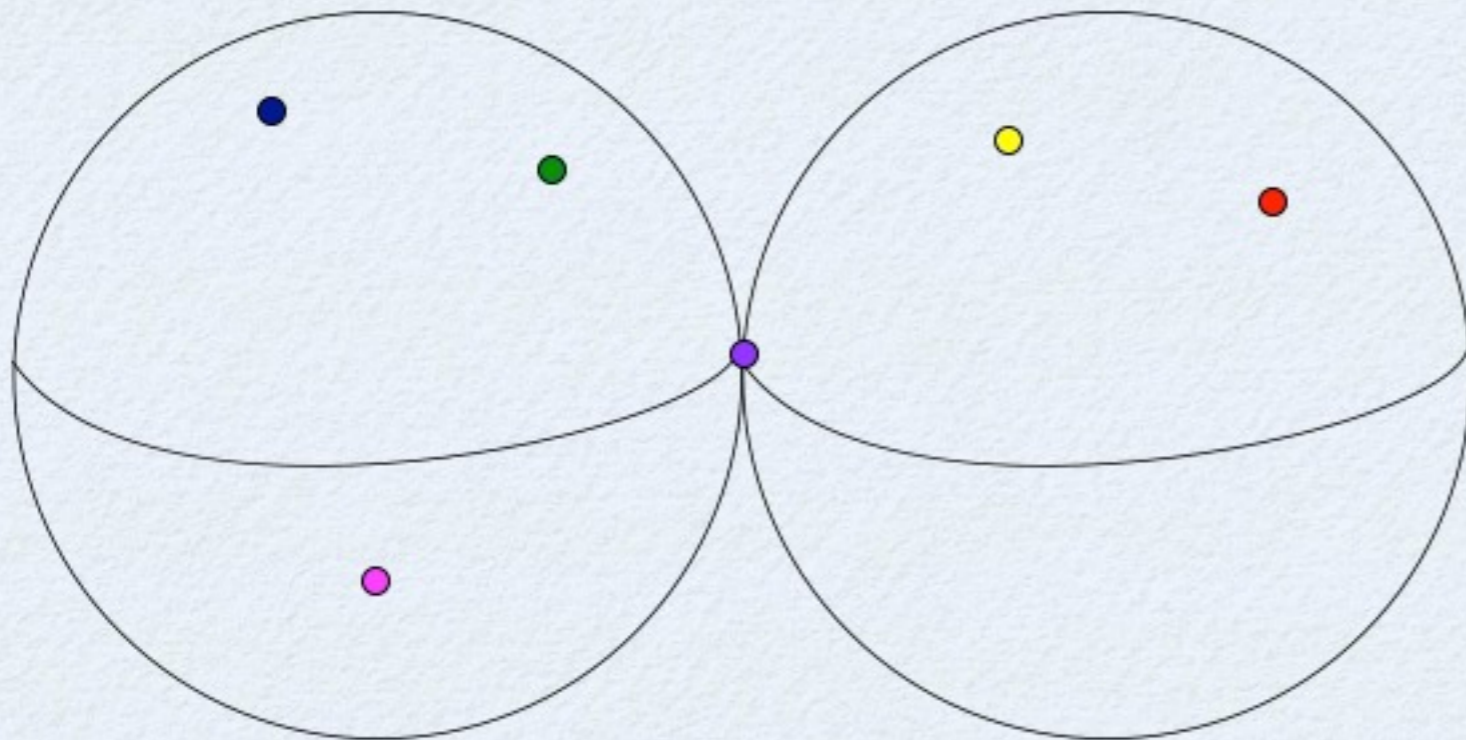
where Δ is the locus where points coalesce.

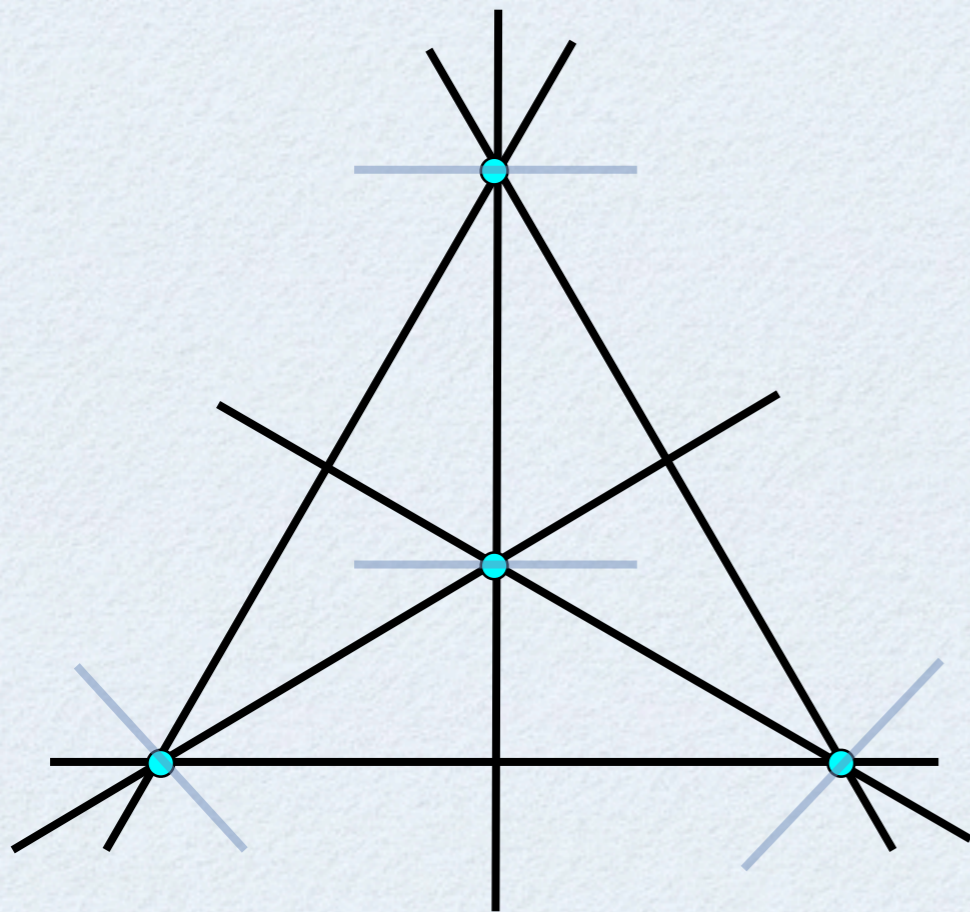


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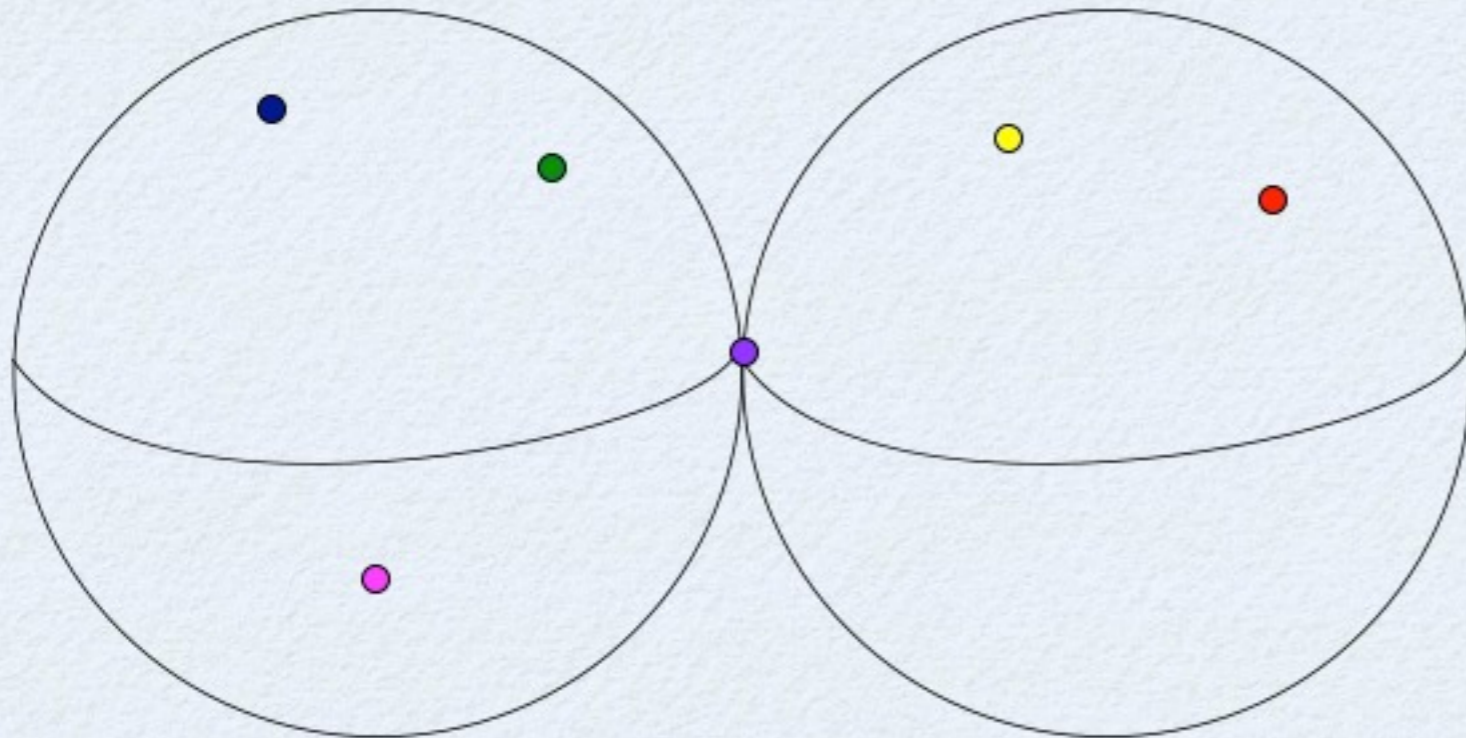


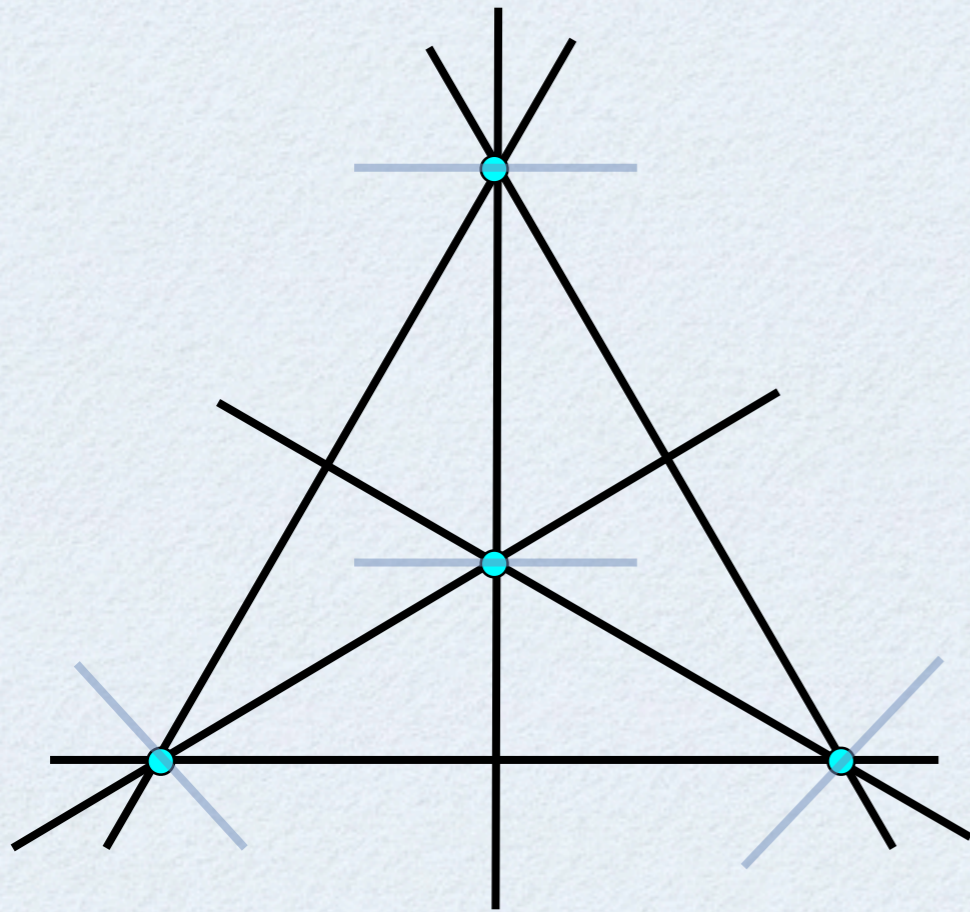


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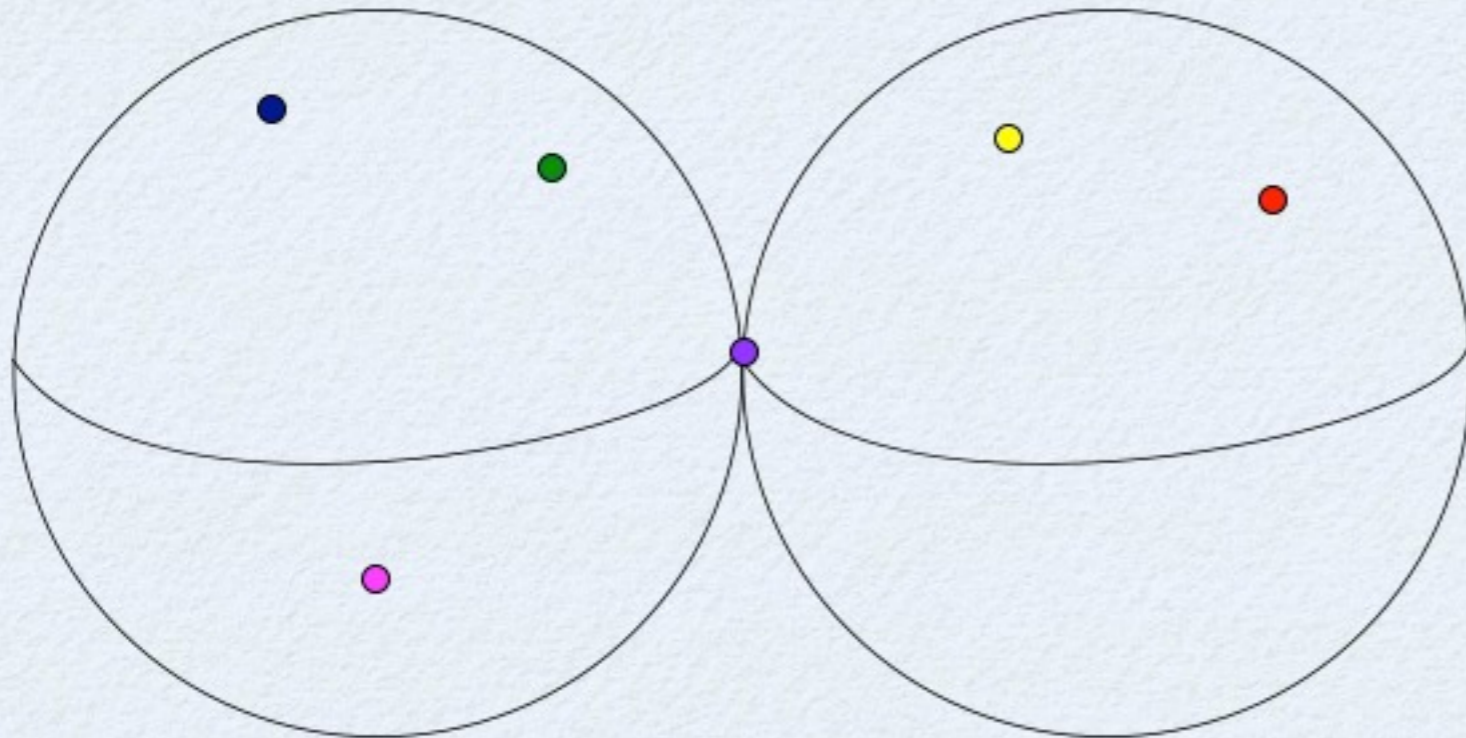




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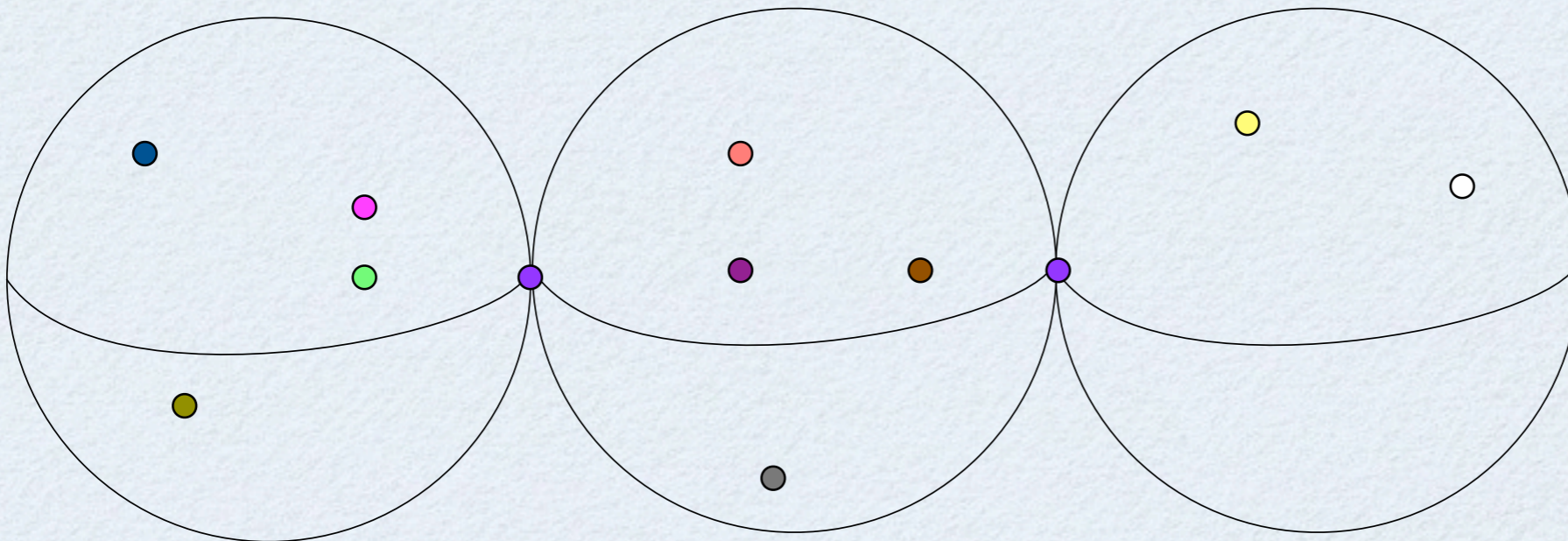
$$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_5 \approx \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^2$$

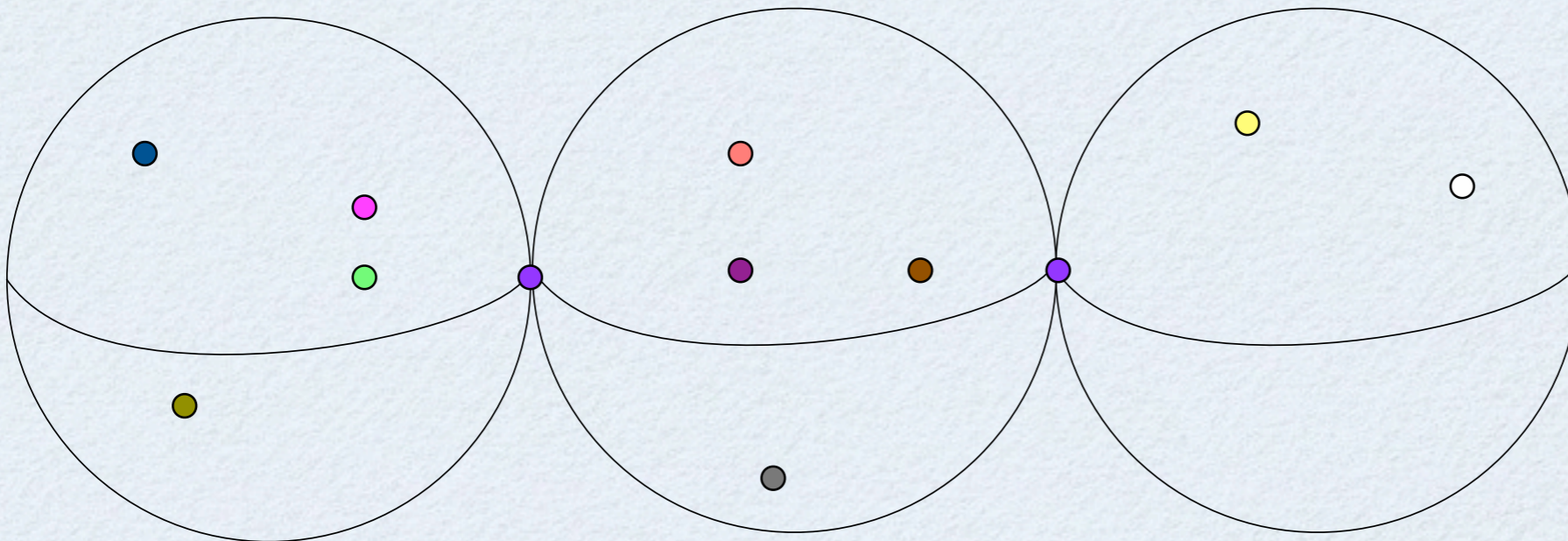
Proposition. $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_6$ is isomorphic to the space obtained by

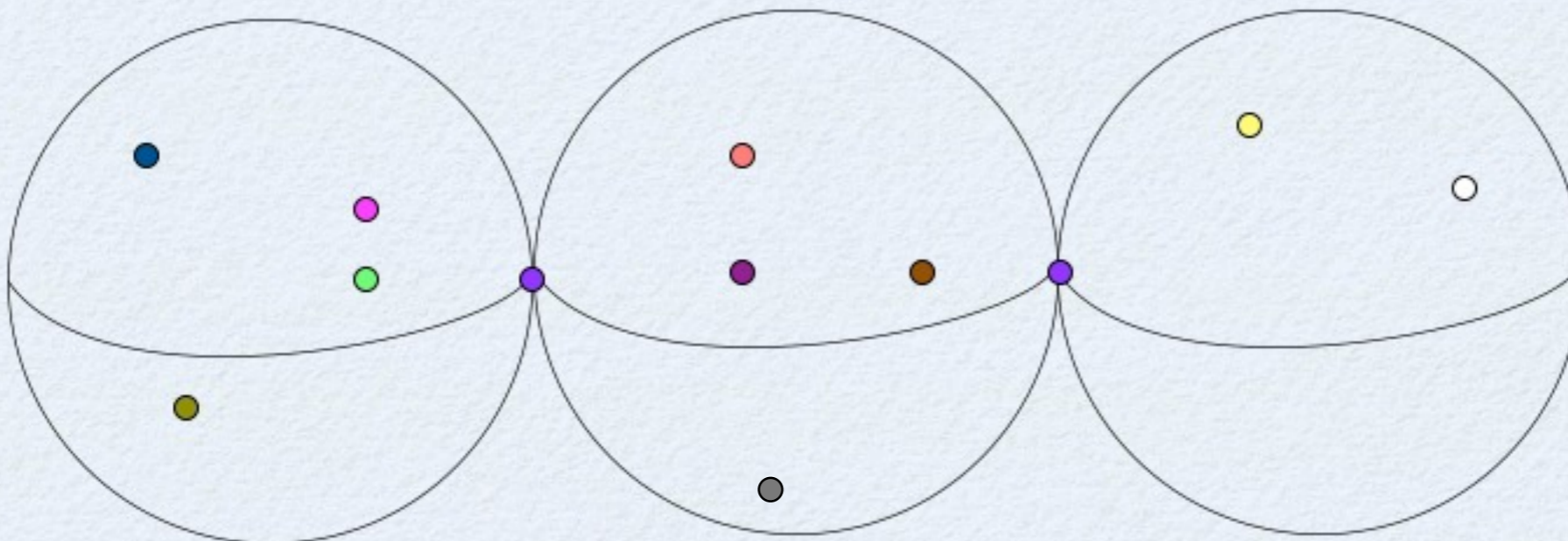
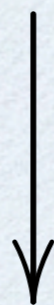
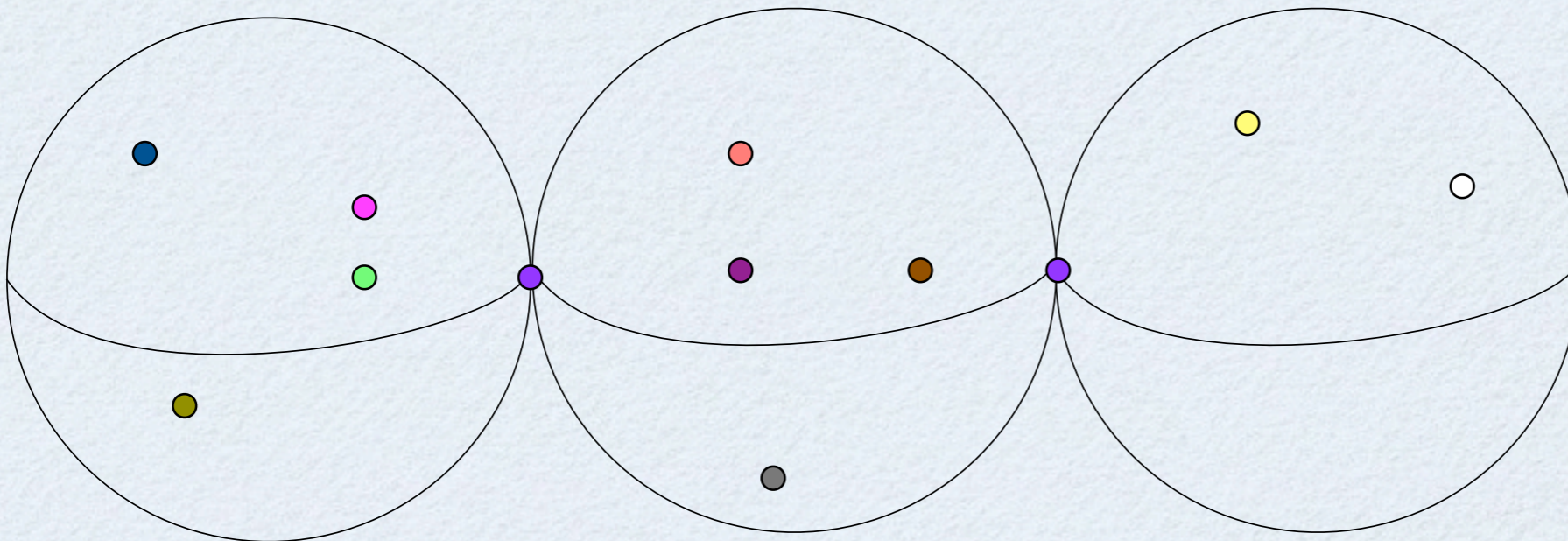
- first blowing up 5 points in \mathbb{P}^3 in general position
- then blowing up the proper transforms of the 10 lines between pairs of these points.

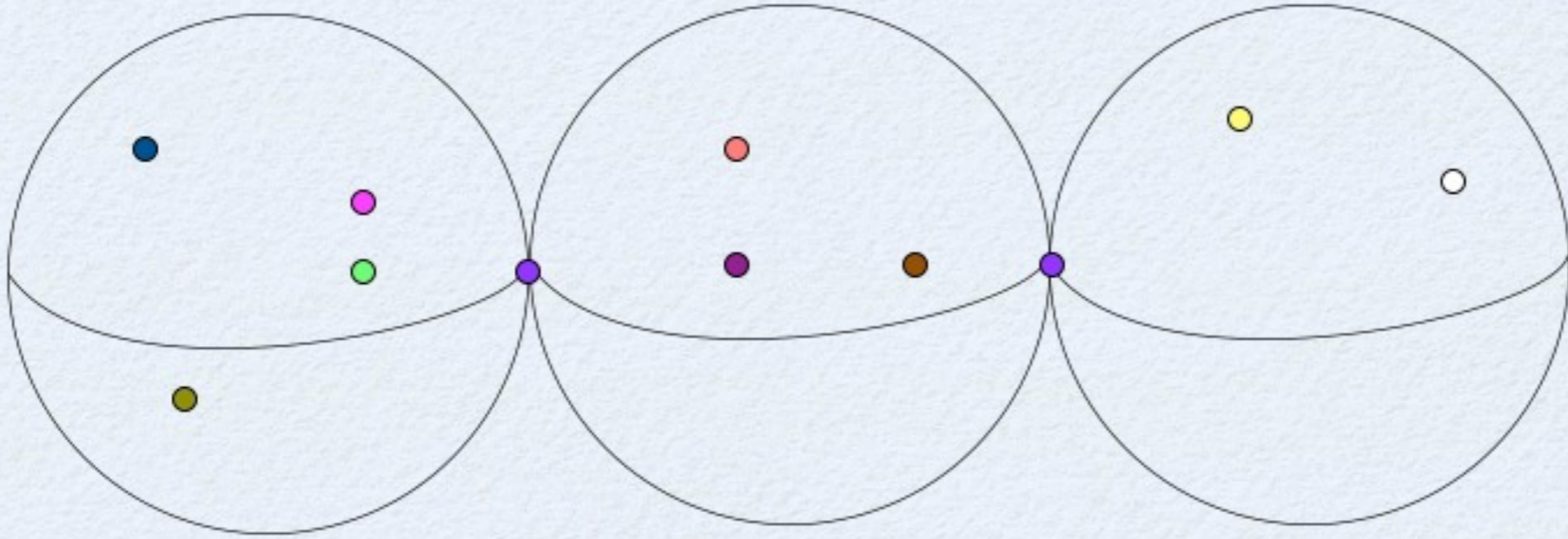
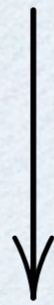
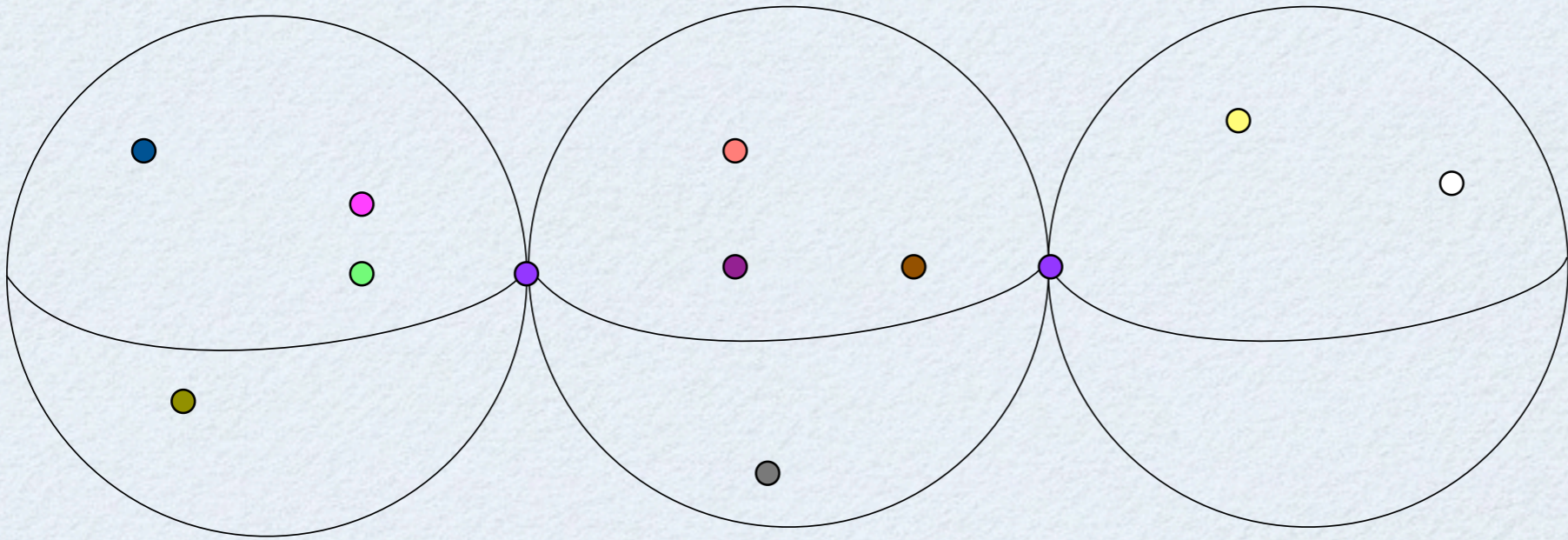
Consider the general case: $|P| = n$. Take $n - 1$ points in general position in \mathbb{P}^{n-3} . Blow these points up, then blow up the proper transforms of the lines between pairs of these points, and continue...

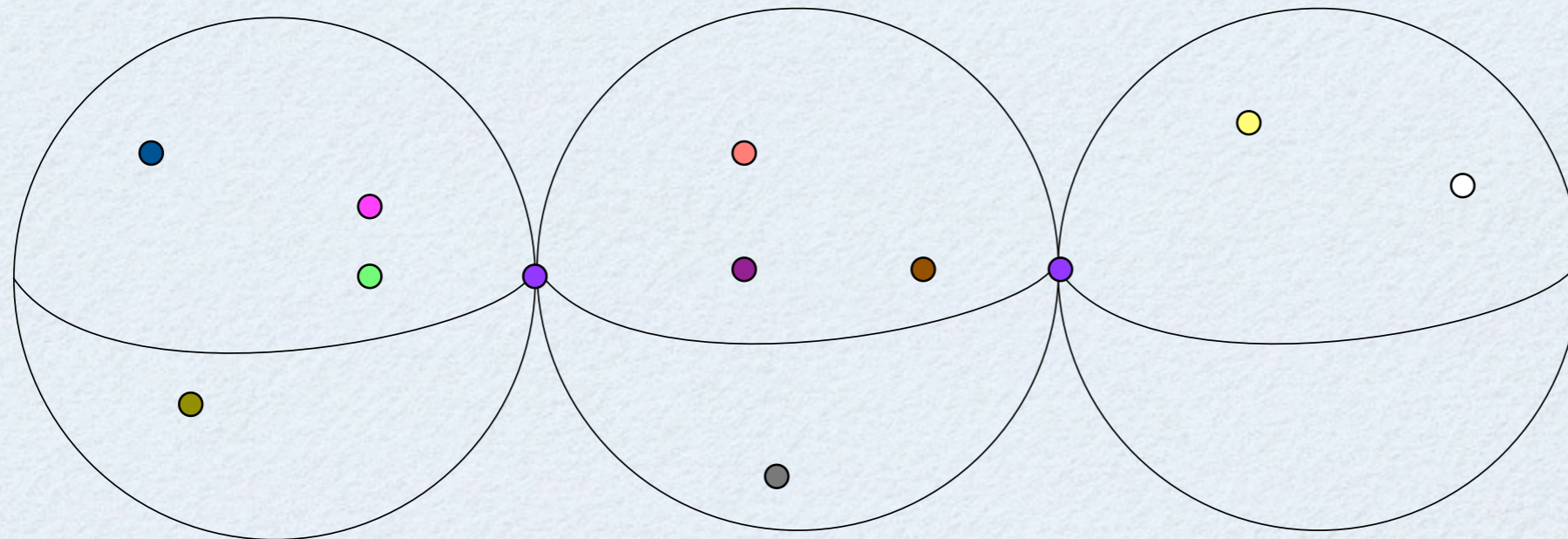
Theorem. (Lloyd-Philipps) The space $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_n$ is isomorphic to the “sequential blow up” of \mathbb{P}^{n-3} described above.



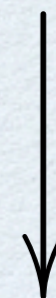




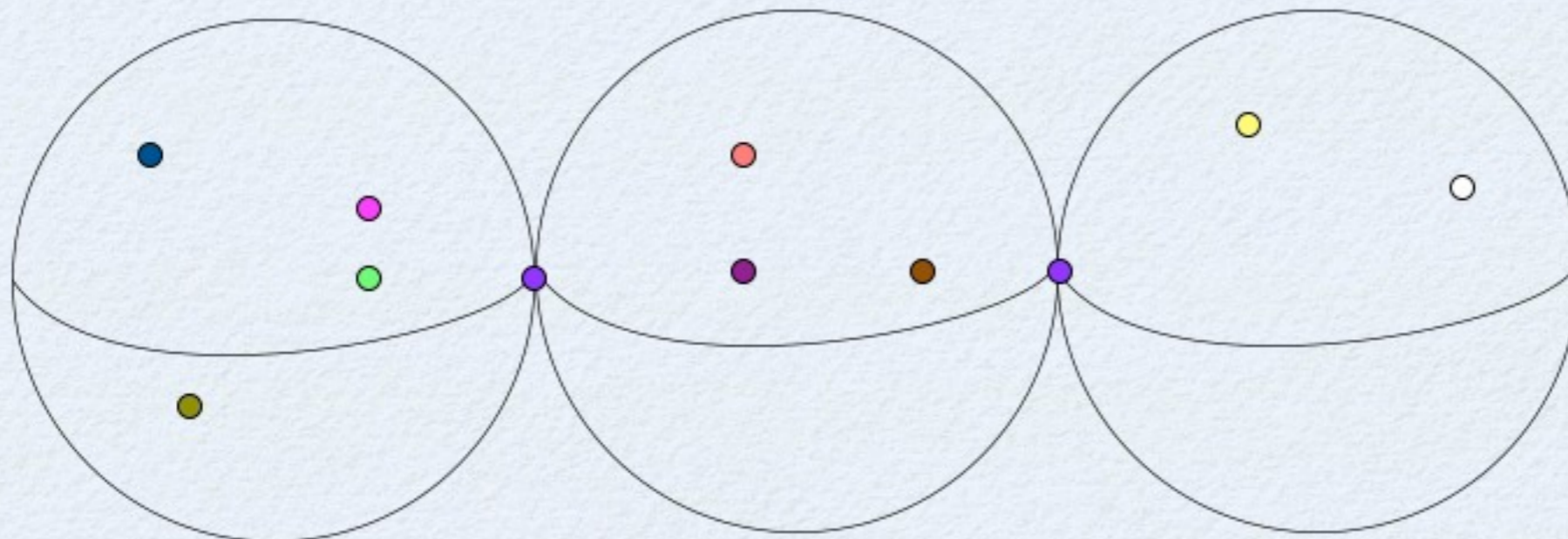
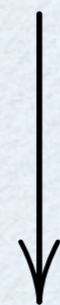


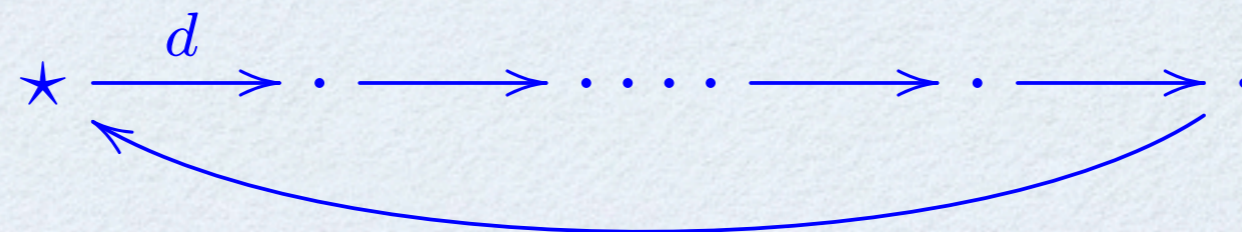


$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{n+1}$



$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_n$





Then a moduli space map exists $g : \mathcal{M}_P \dashrightarrow \mathcal{M}_P$, and we examine the associated skew product

$$G : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^n \quad \text{given by} \quad G : \begin{pmatrix} t \\ \mathbf{x} \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} F_{\mathbf{x}}(t) \\ g(\mathbf{x}) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$G : \mathbb{P}^n \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$$

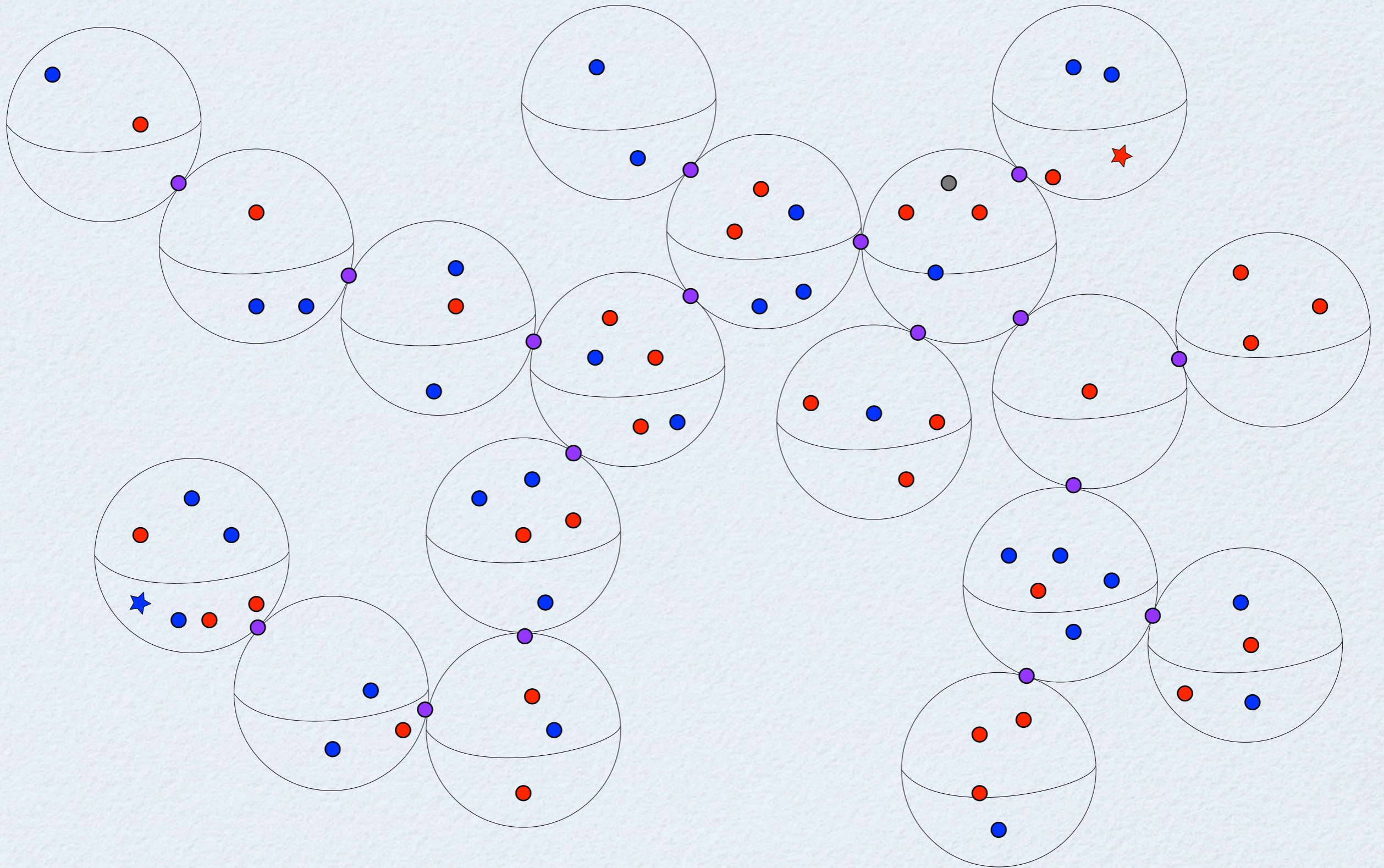
$$\tilde{G} : \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^n \dashrightarrow \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^n$$

This map \tilde{G} preserves this fibration

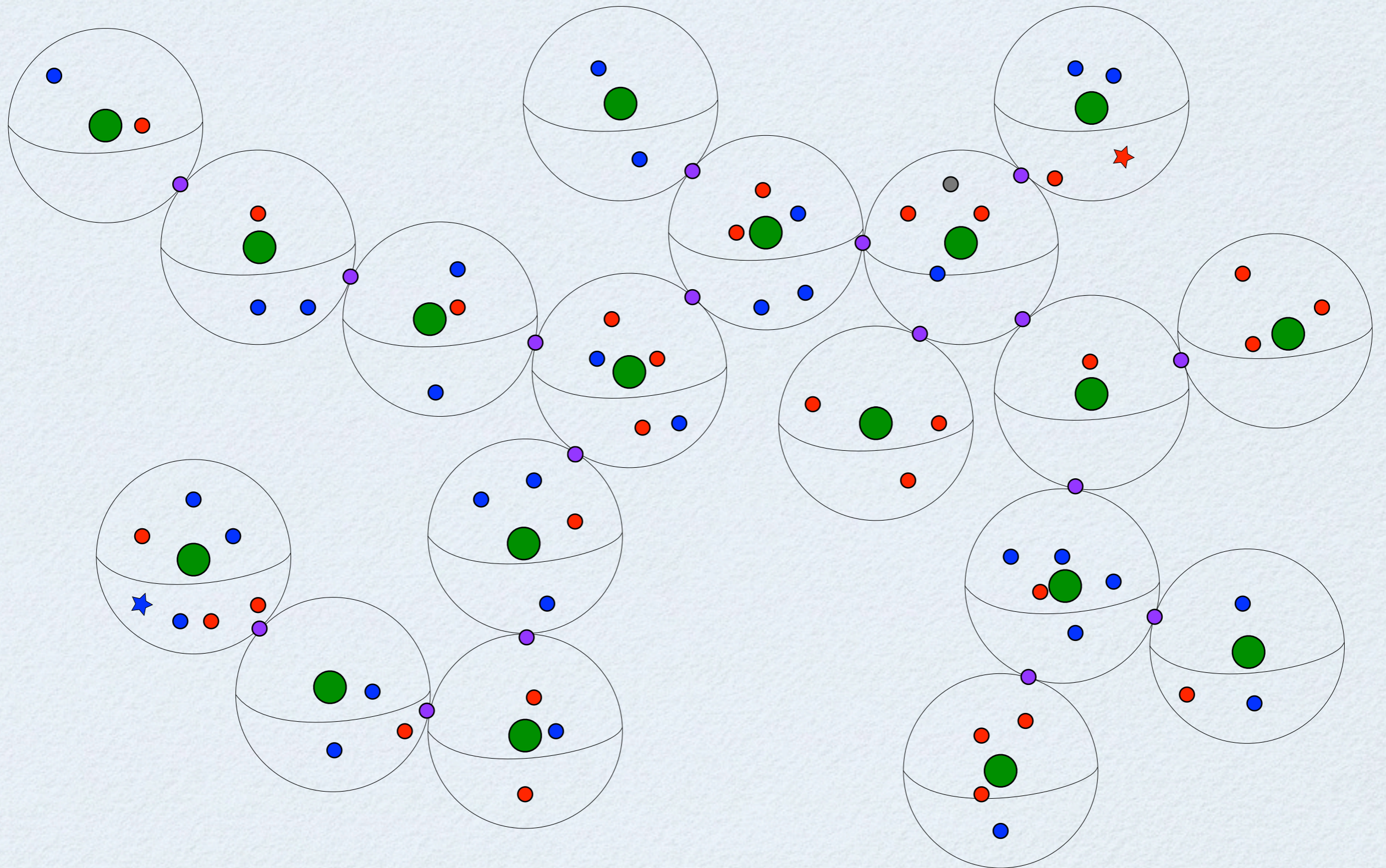
$$\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{n+3} \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{n+2}, \quad \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^n \rightarrow \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^{n-1}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^n & \xrightarrow{\tilde{G}} & \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^n \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^{n-1} & \xrightarrow{\tilde{g}} & \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^{n-1} \end{array}$$

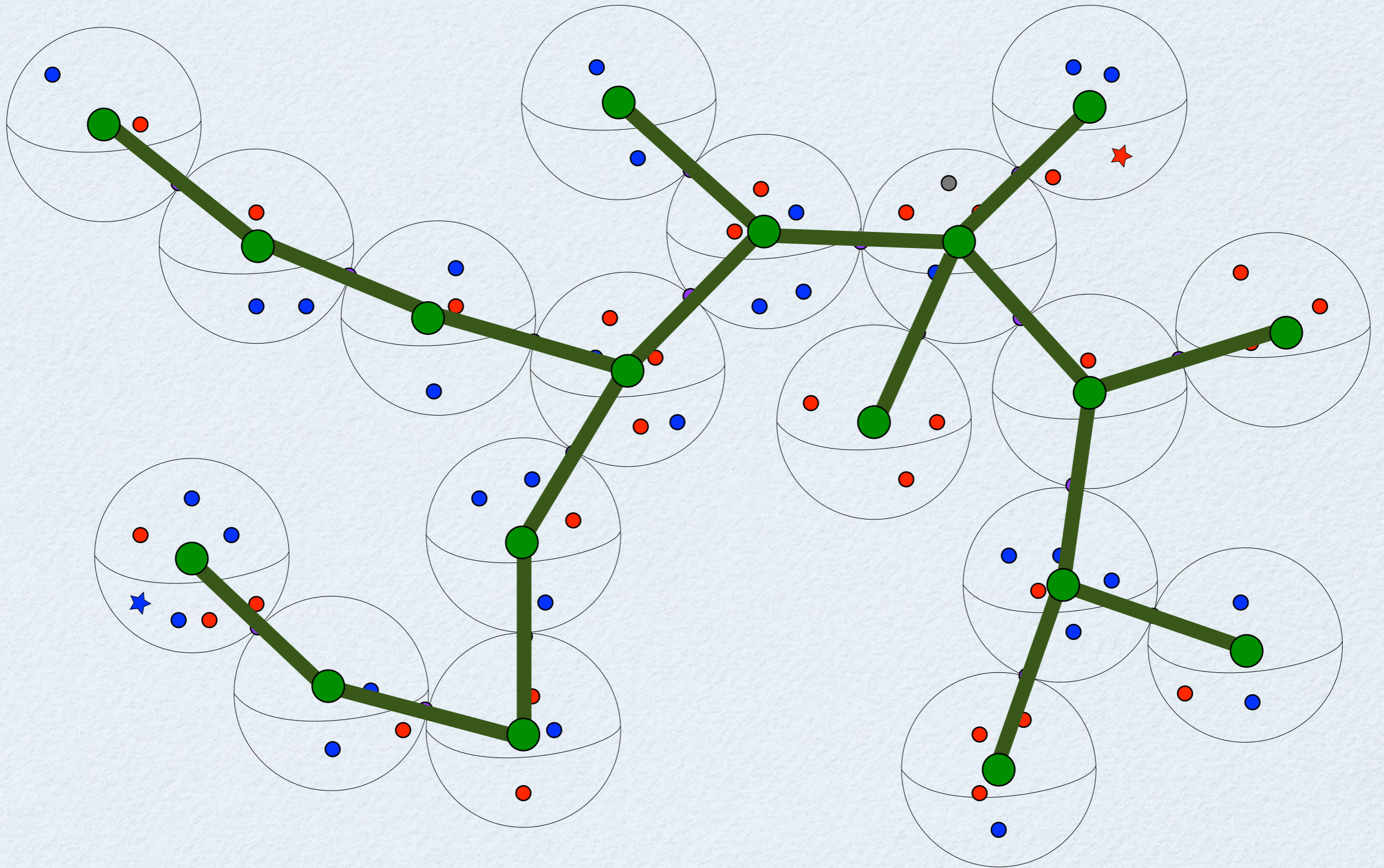
Trees of spheres in $\tilde{\mathbb{P}}^n$

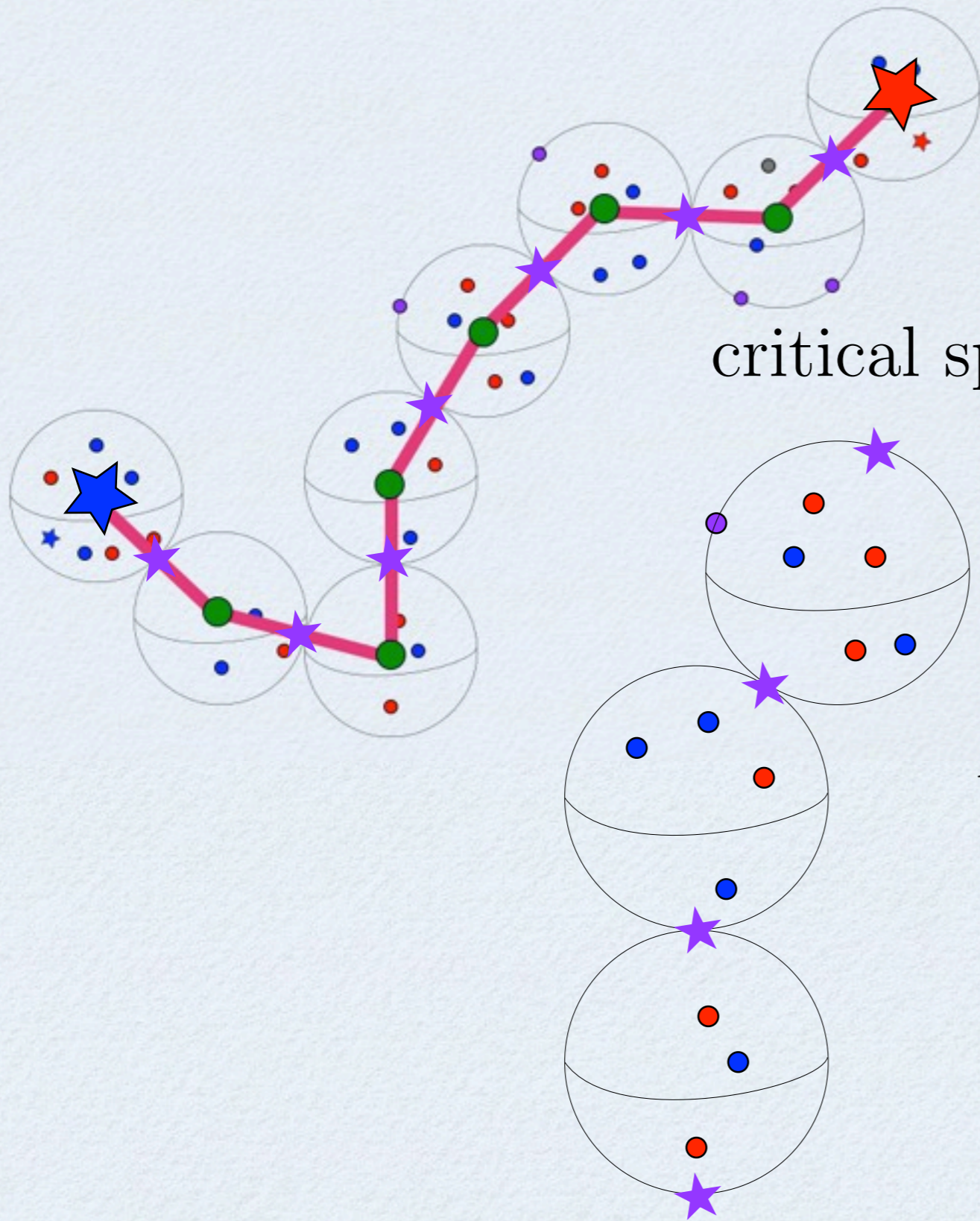


Trees of spheres in $\widetilde{\mathbb{P}}^n$



Trees of spheres in $\tilde{\mathbb{P}}^n$

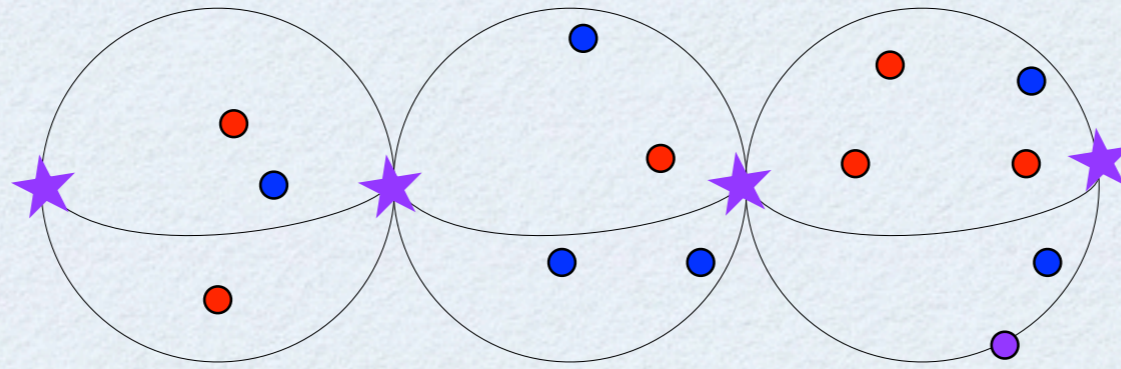


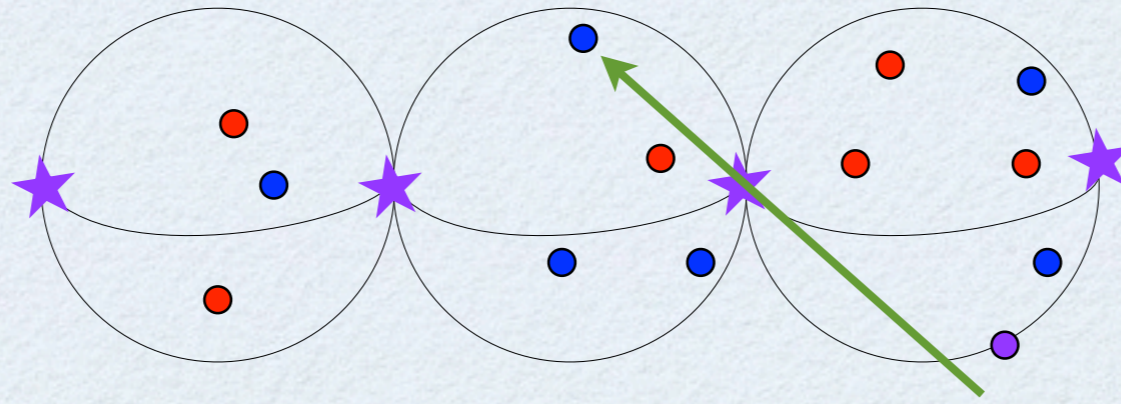


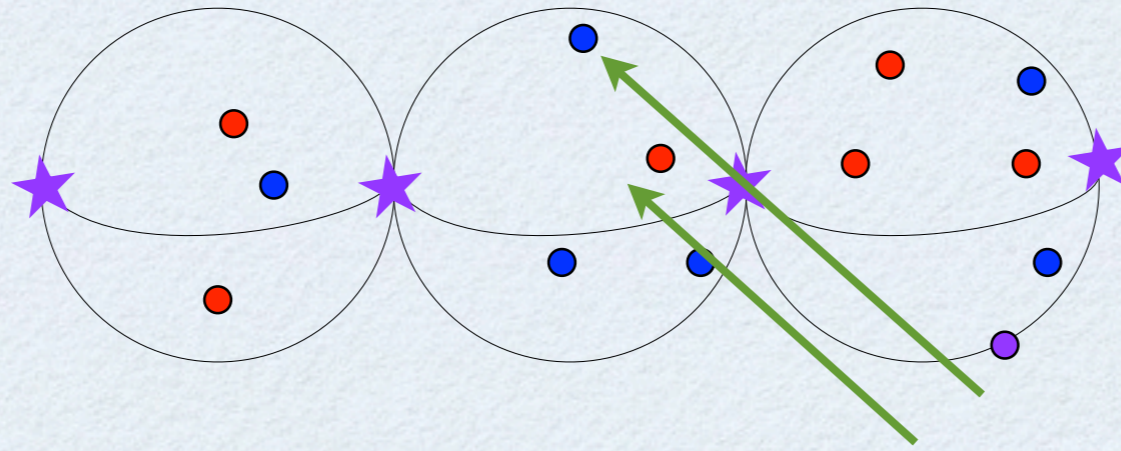
critical spheres: two distinguished points

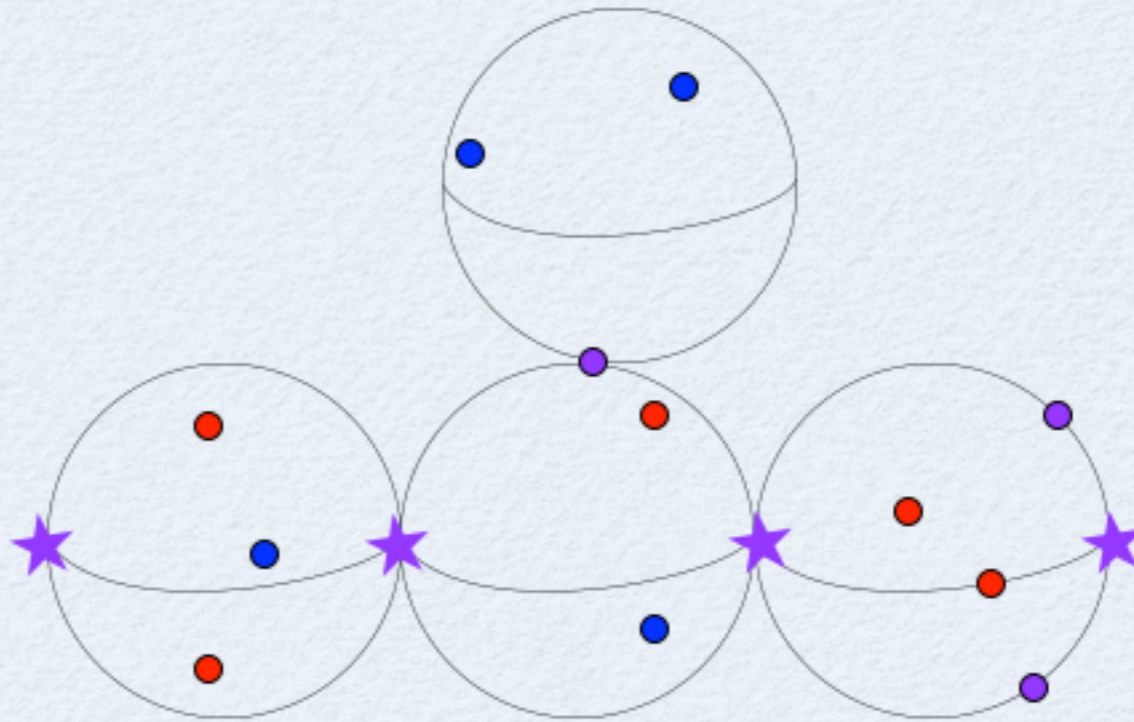
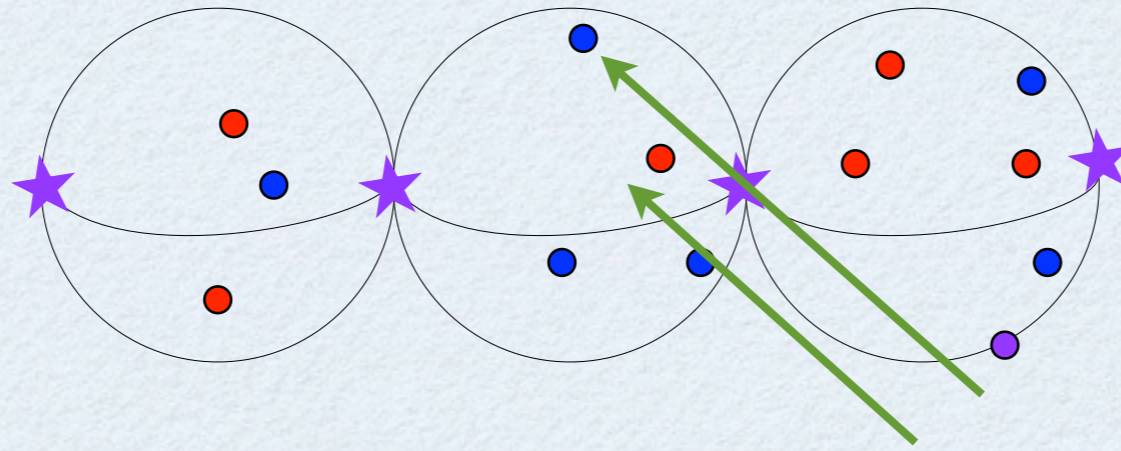
order d automorphism, σ_d

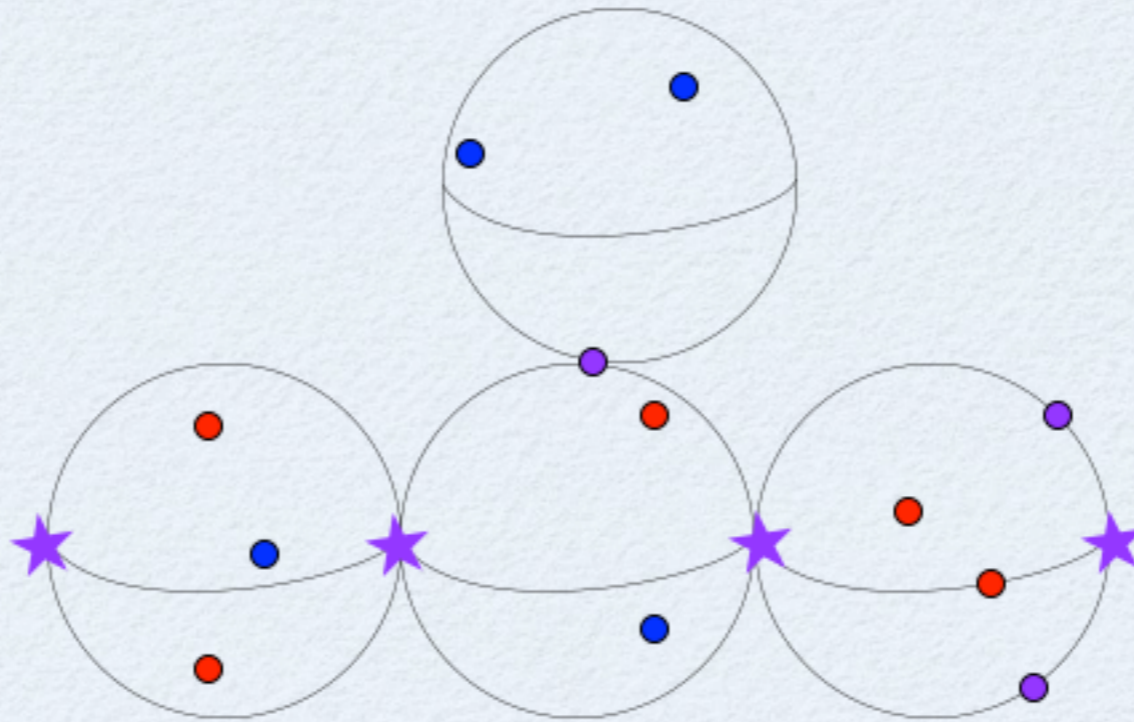
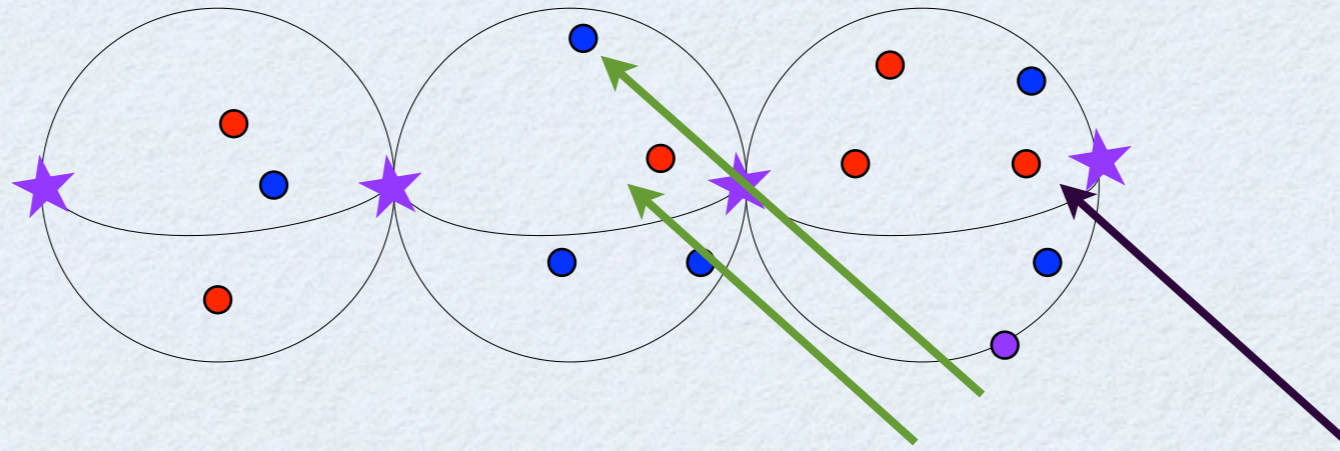
take quotient (critical trunk)/ σ_d

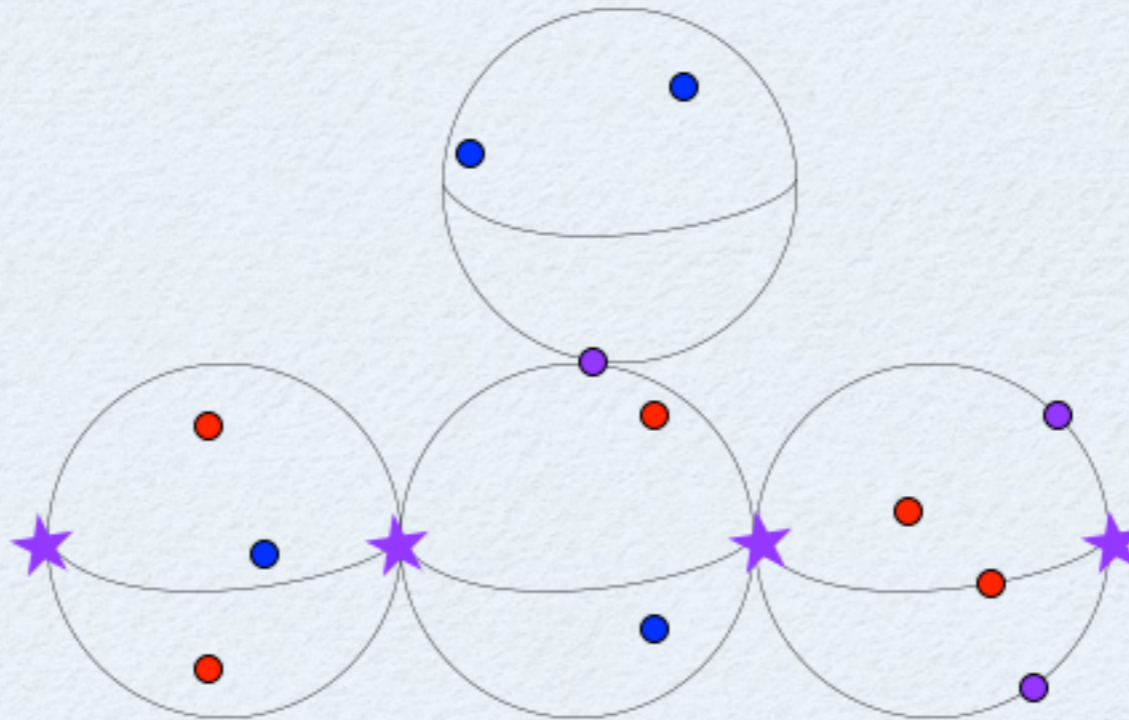
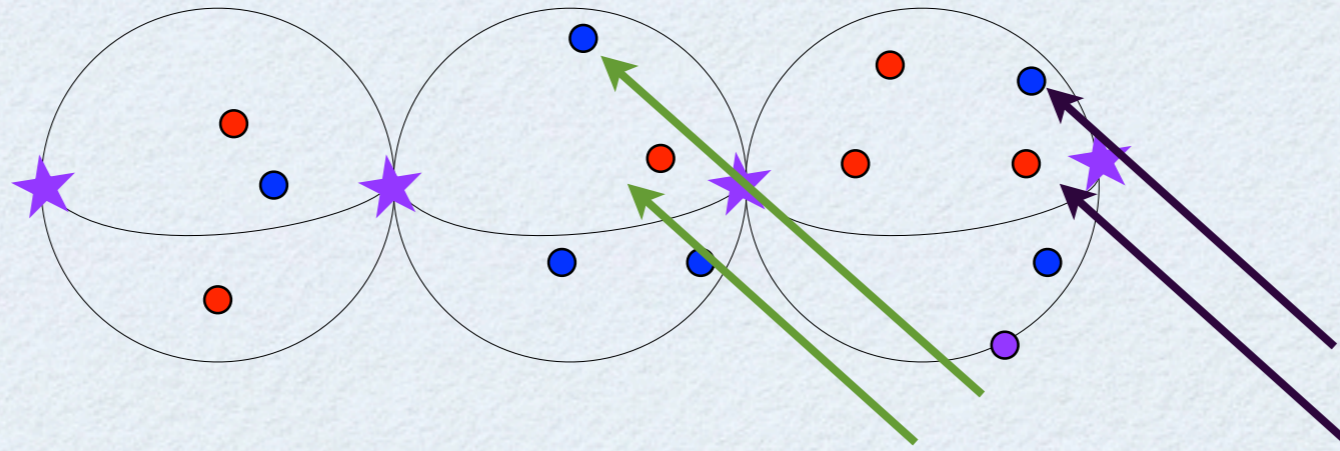


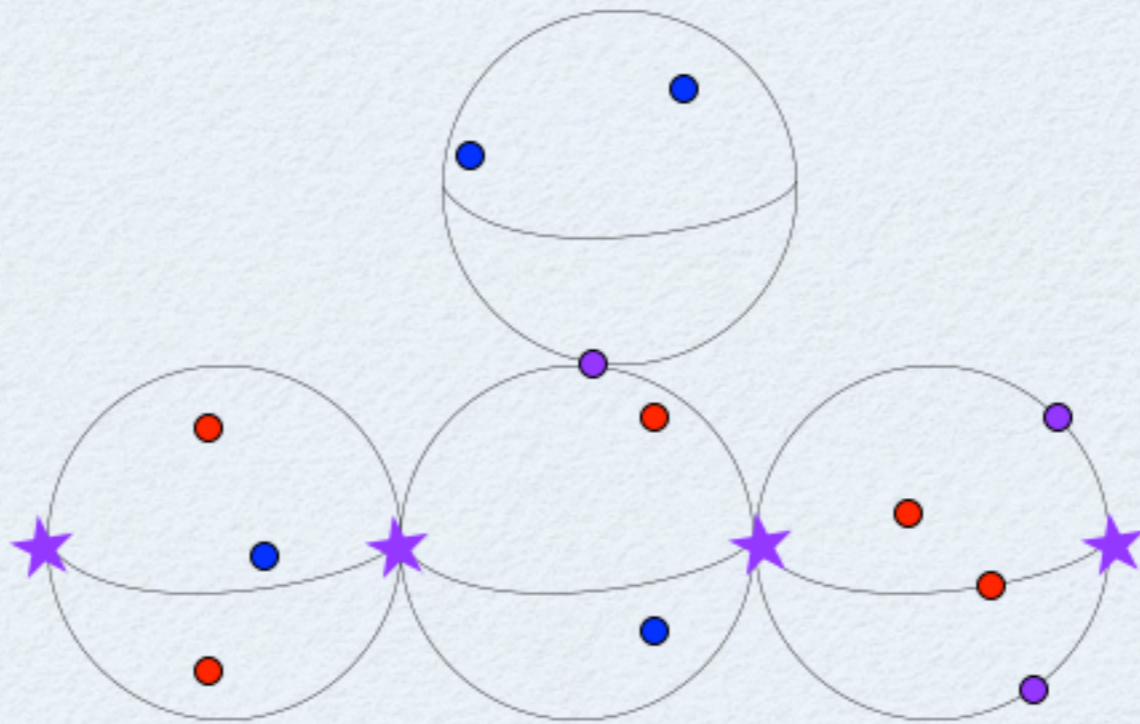
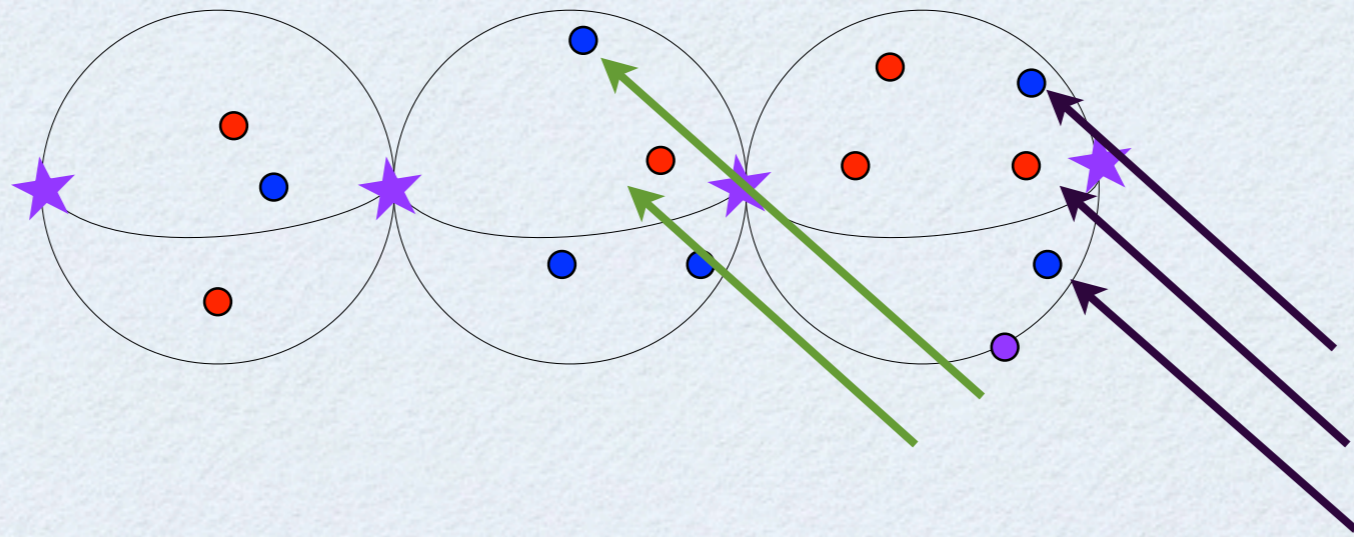


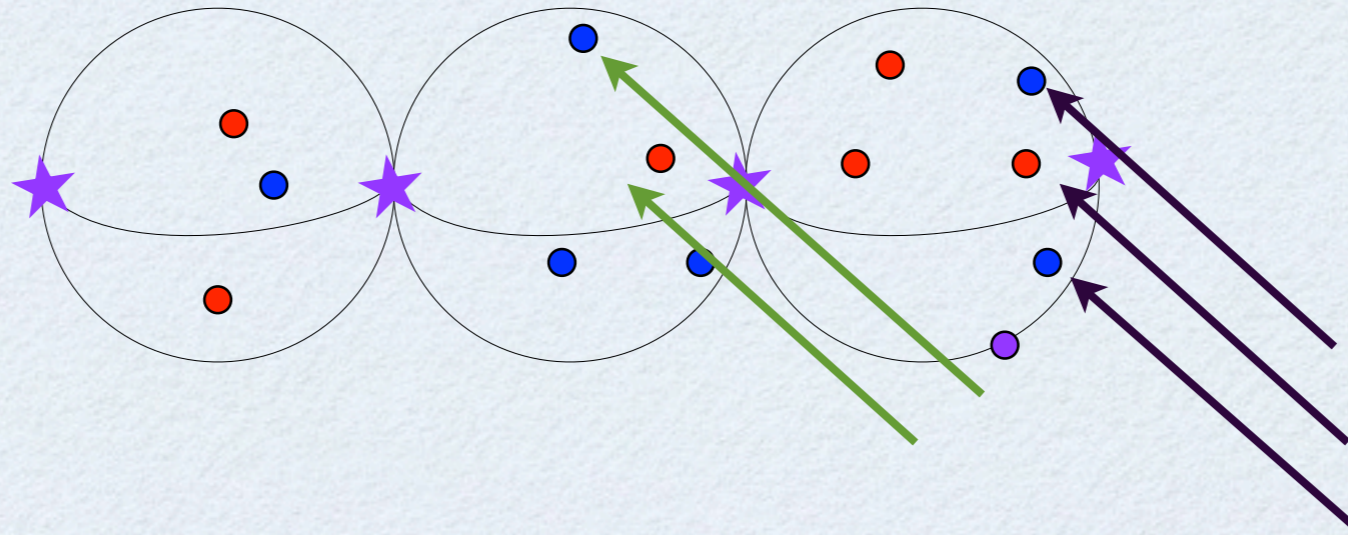


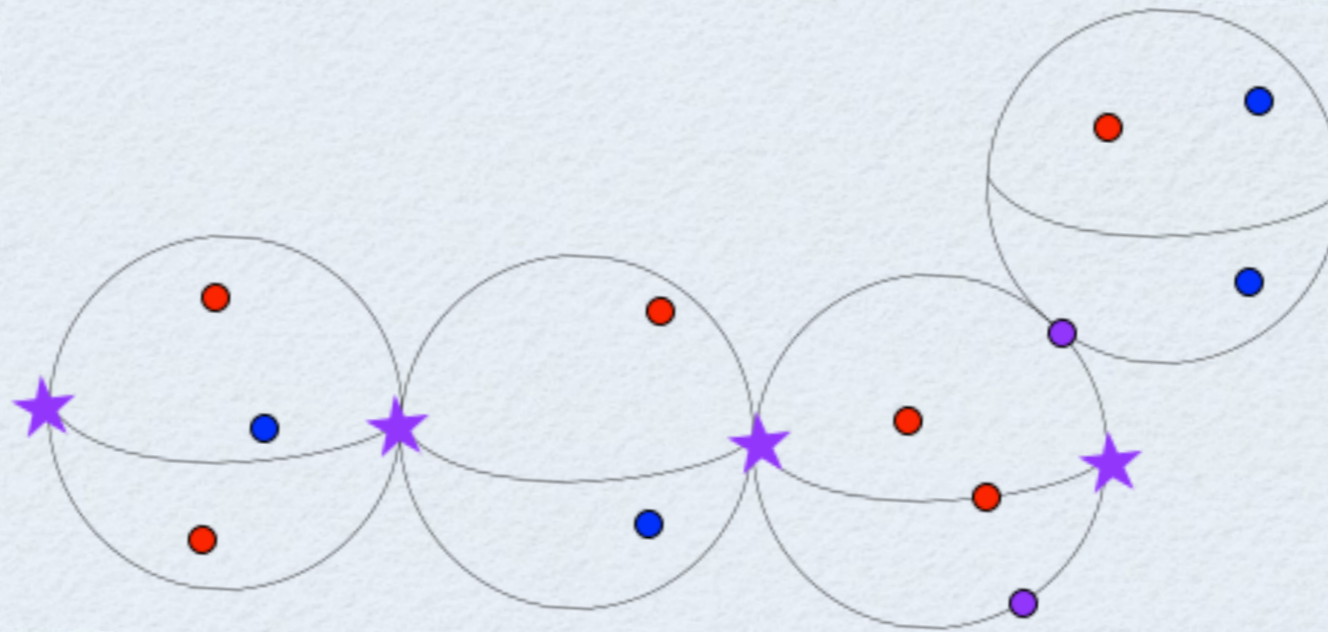
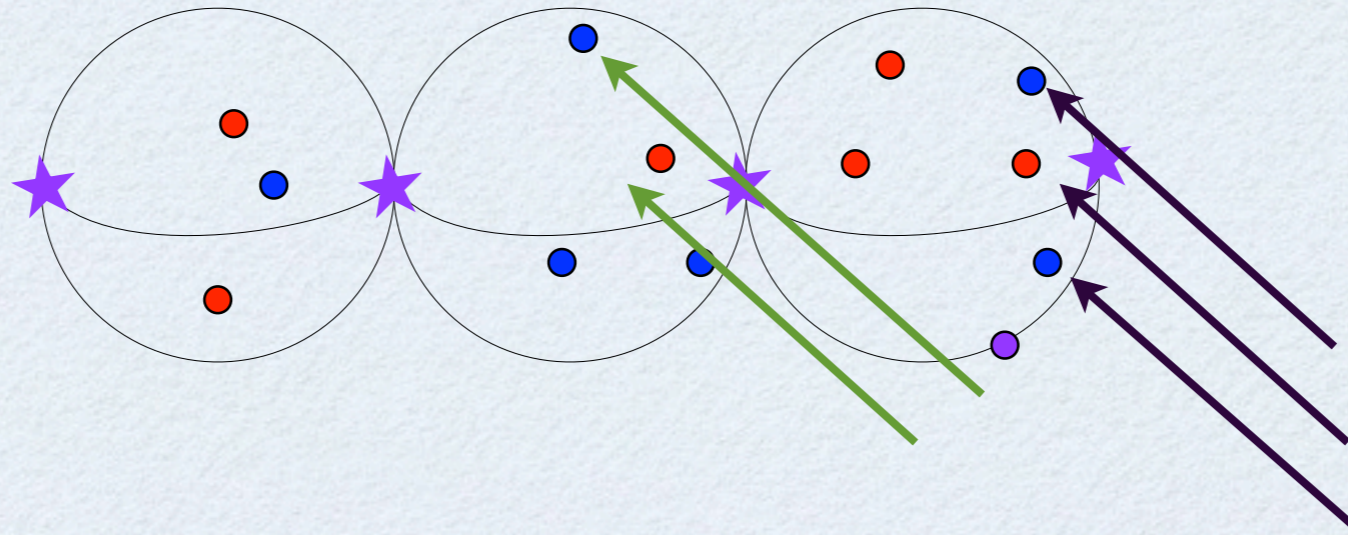




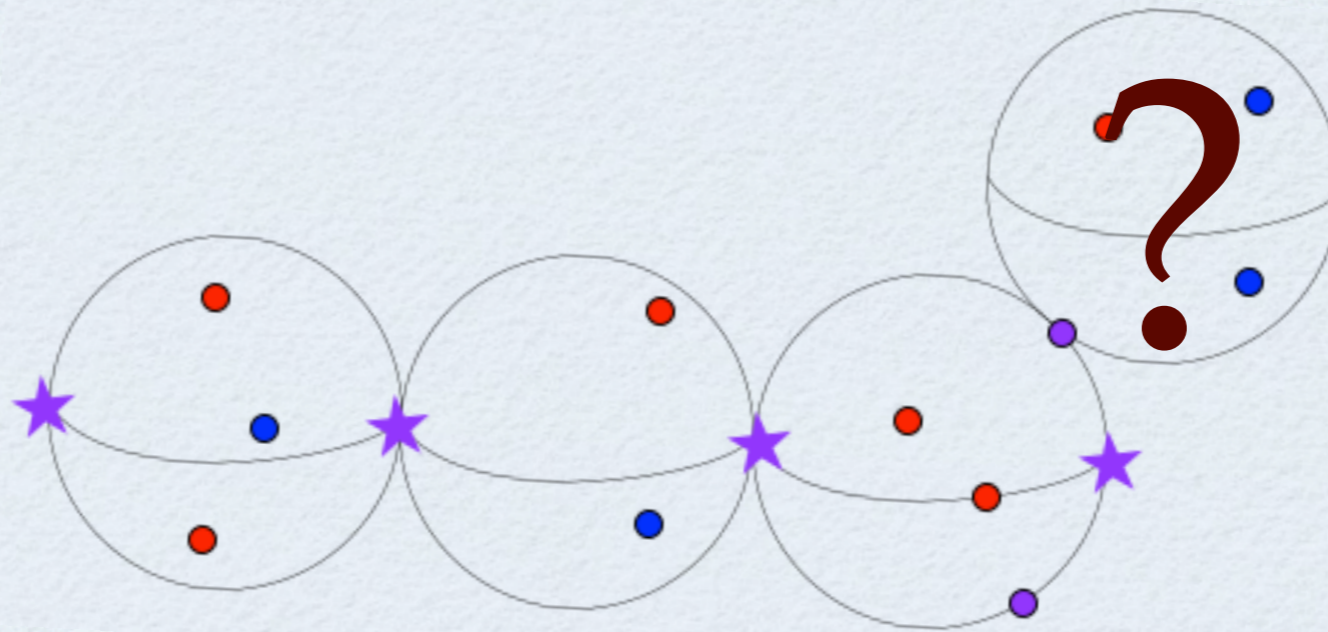
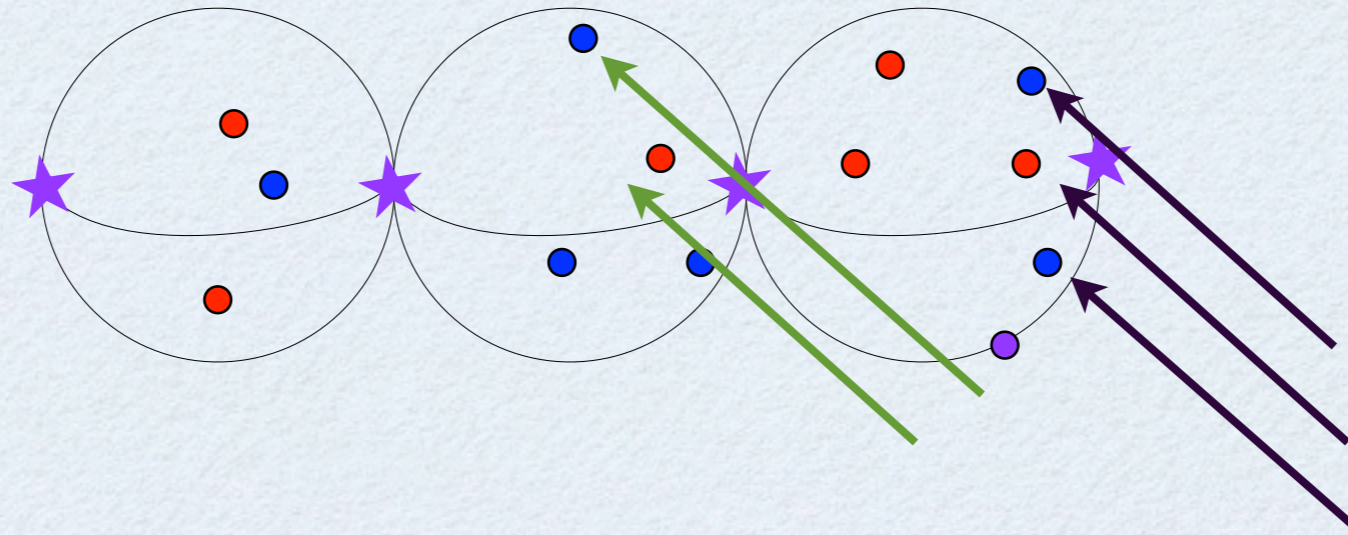


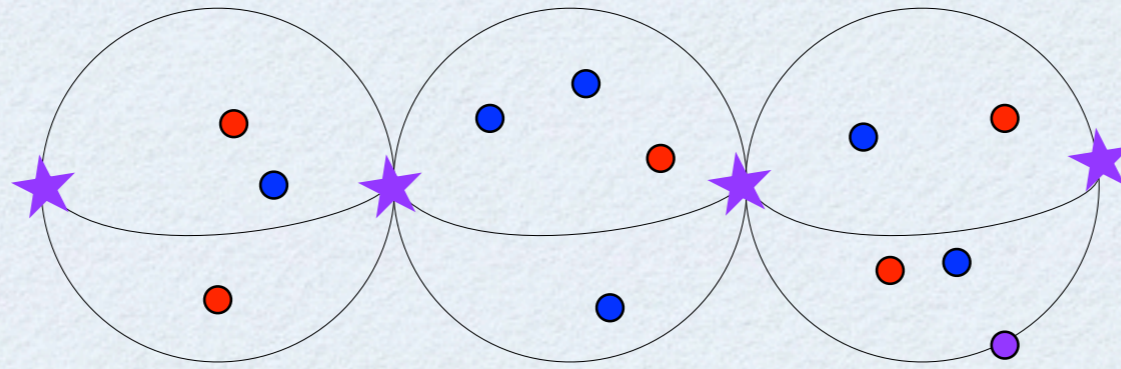


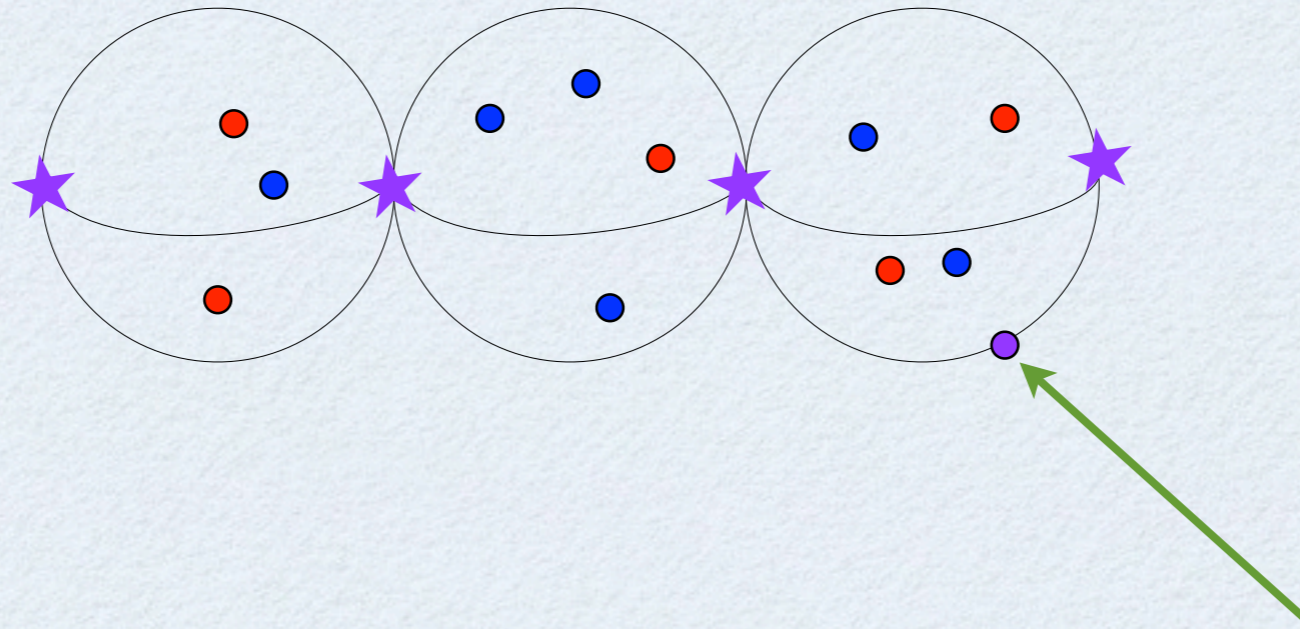


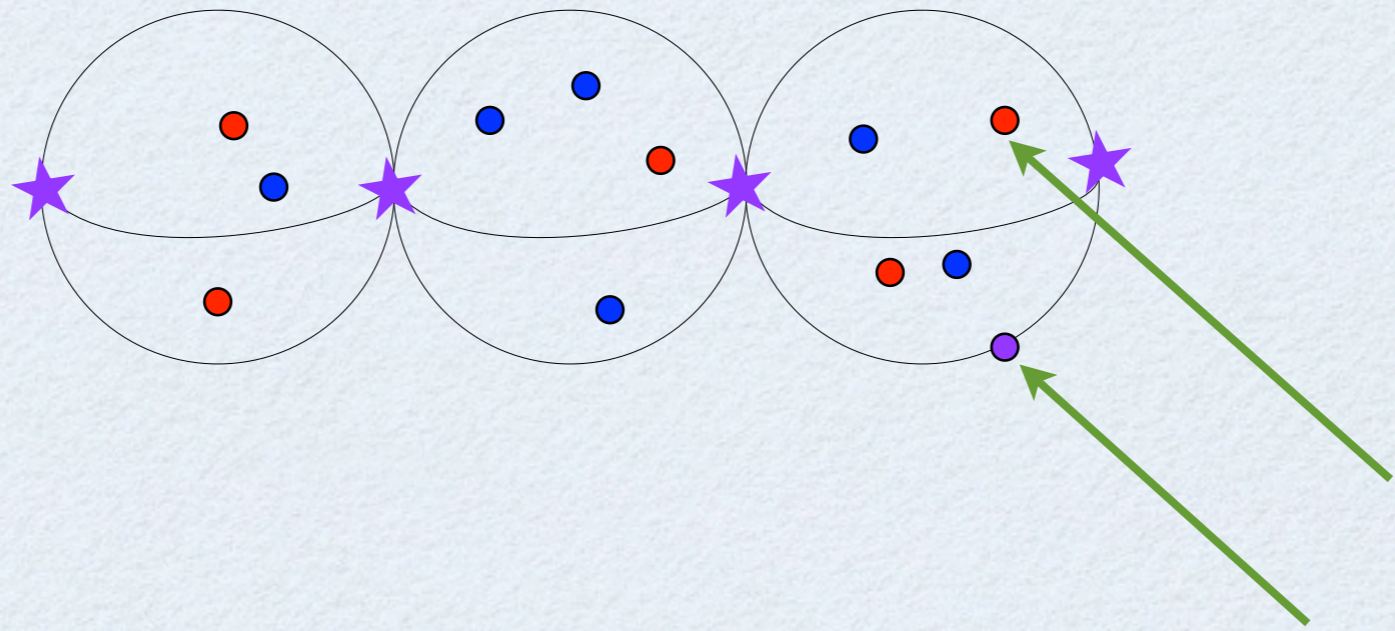


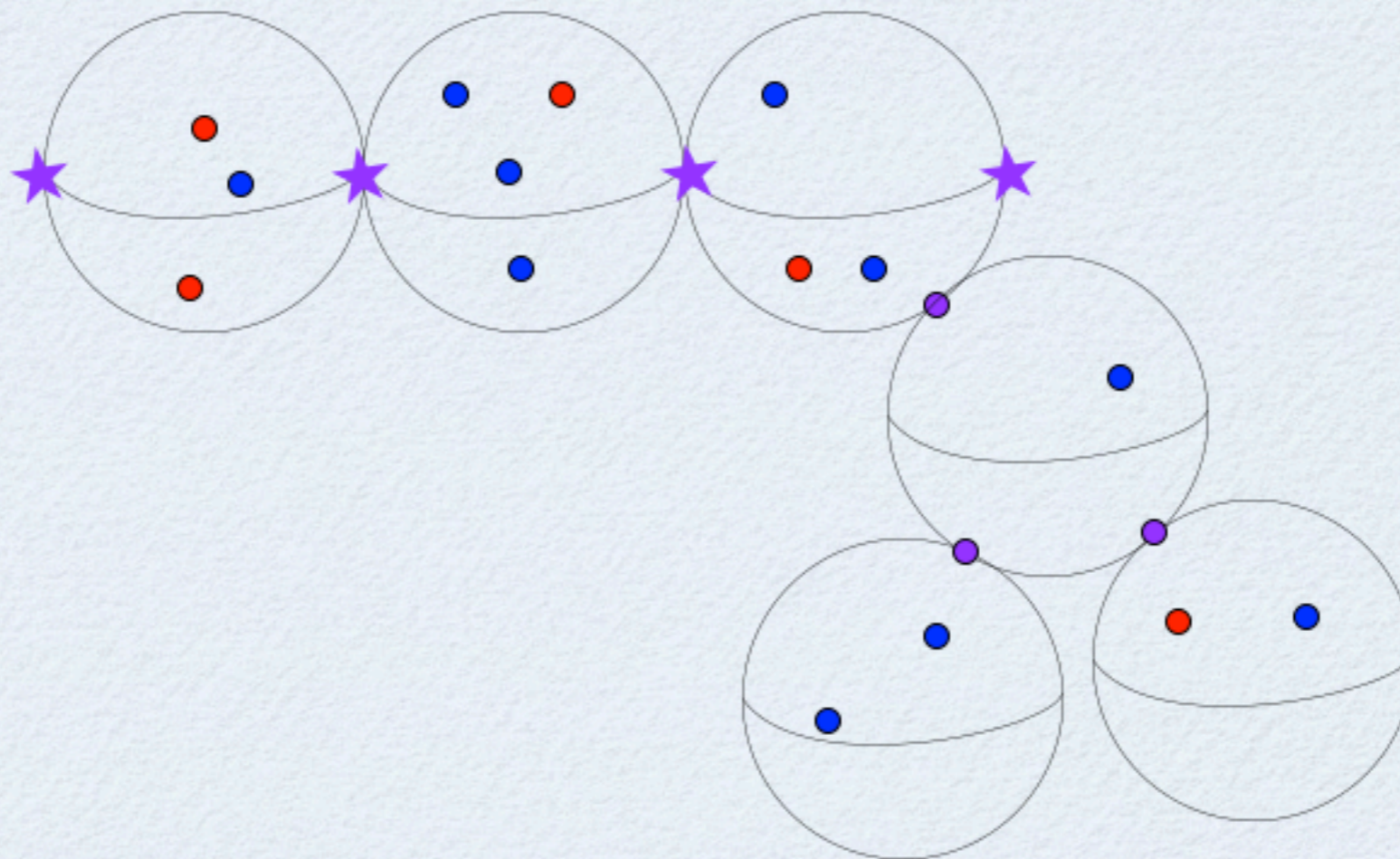
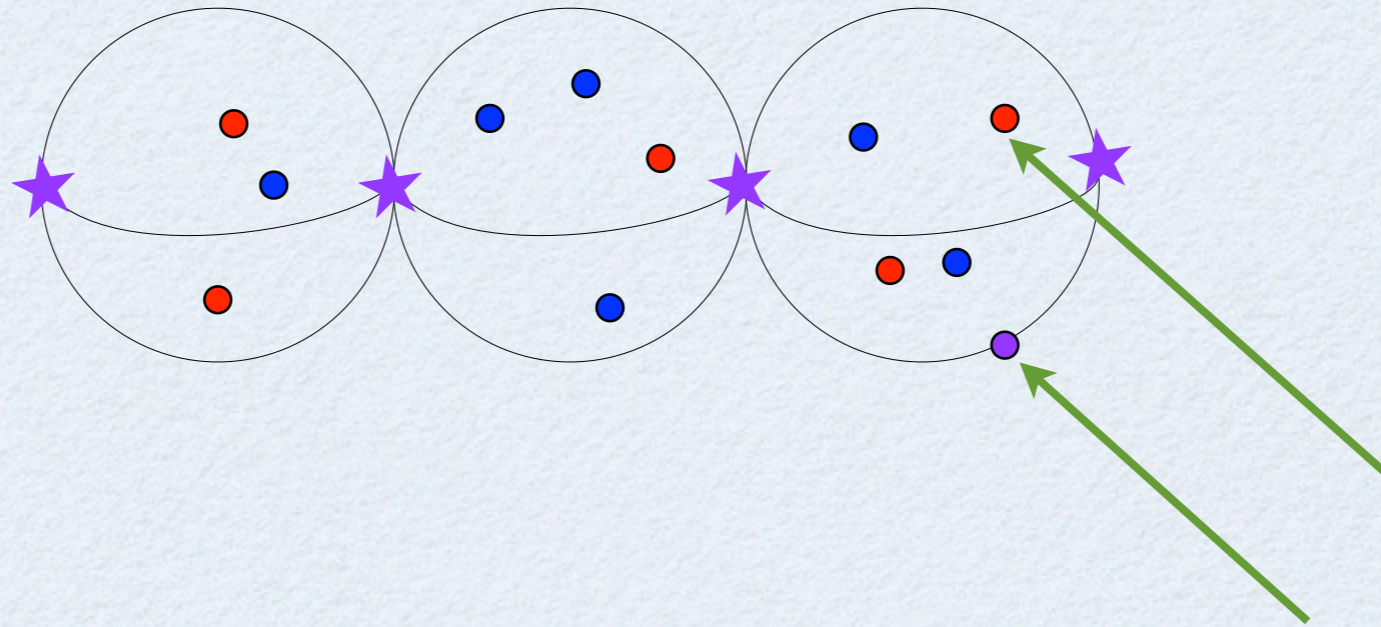
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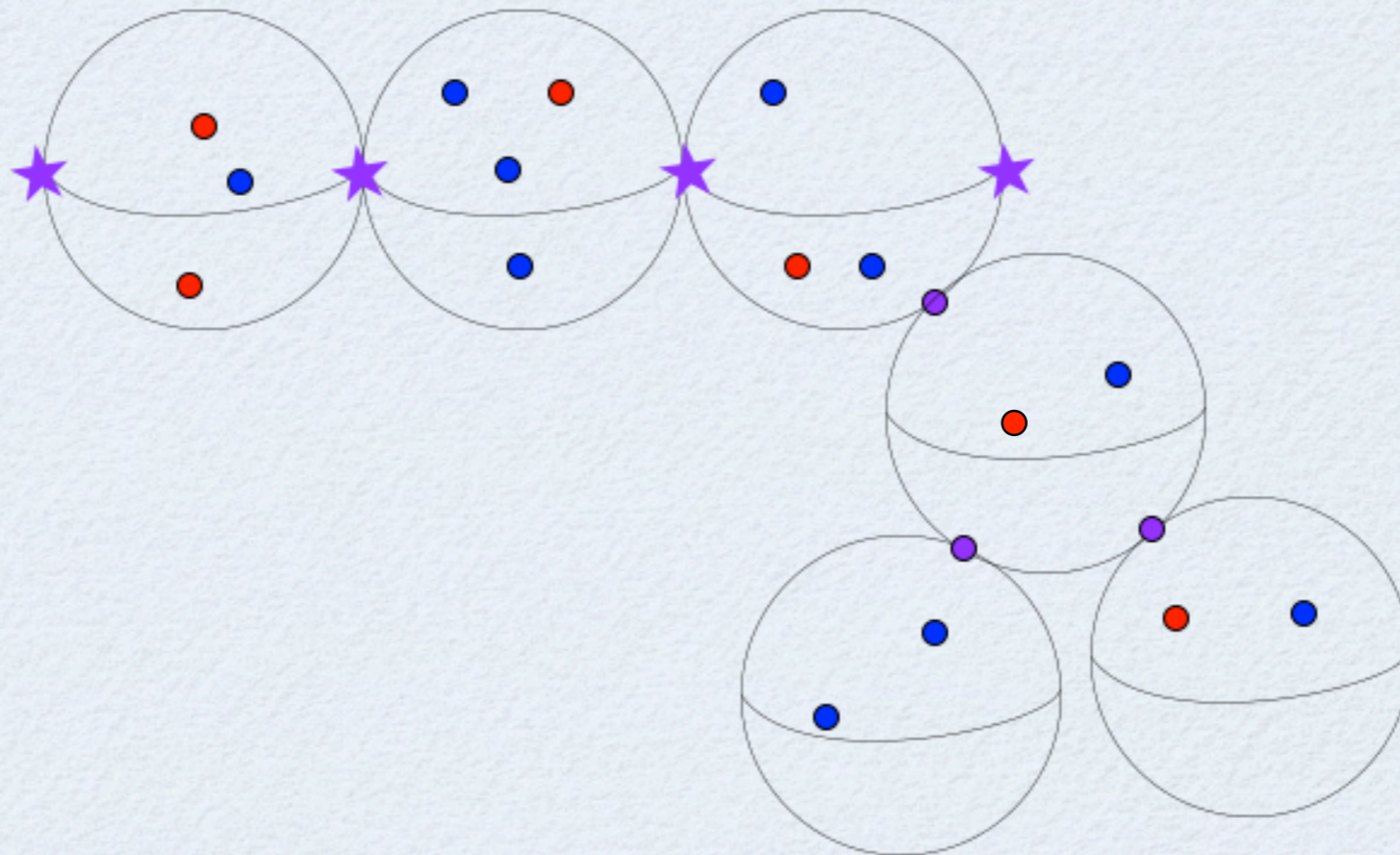
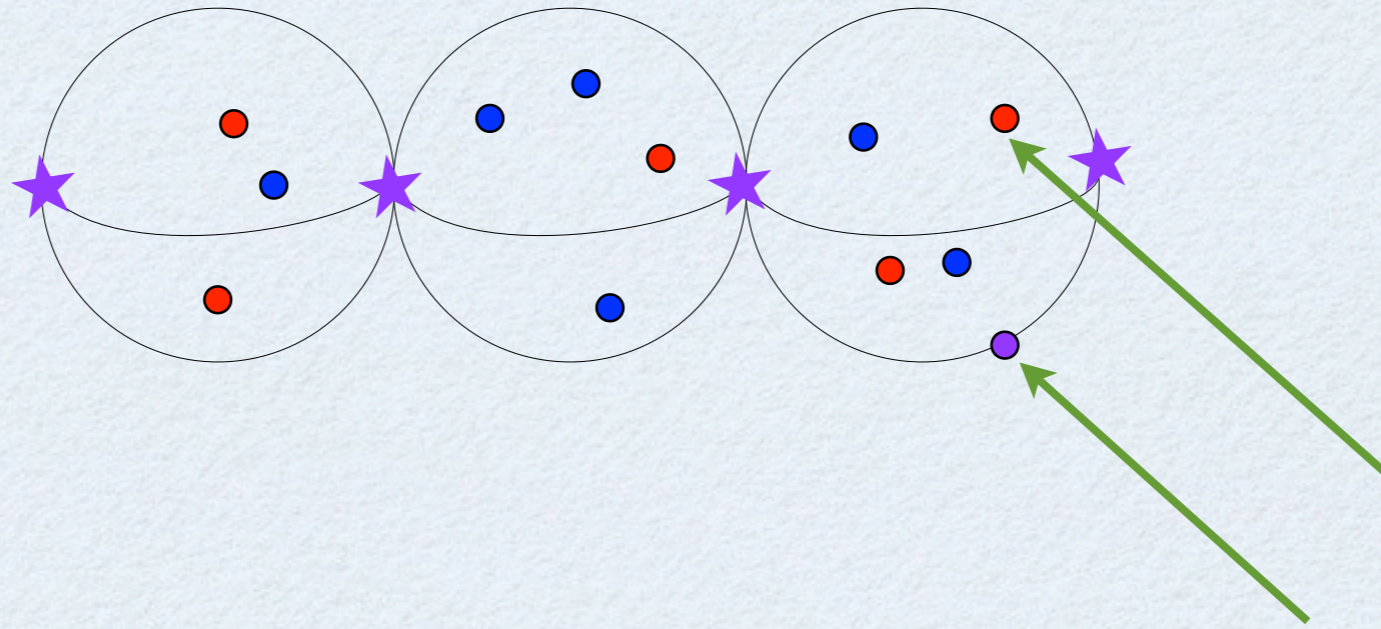


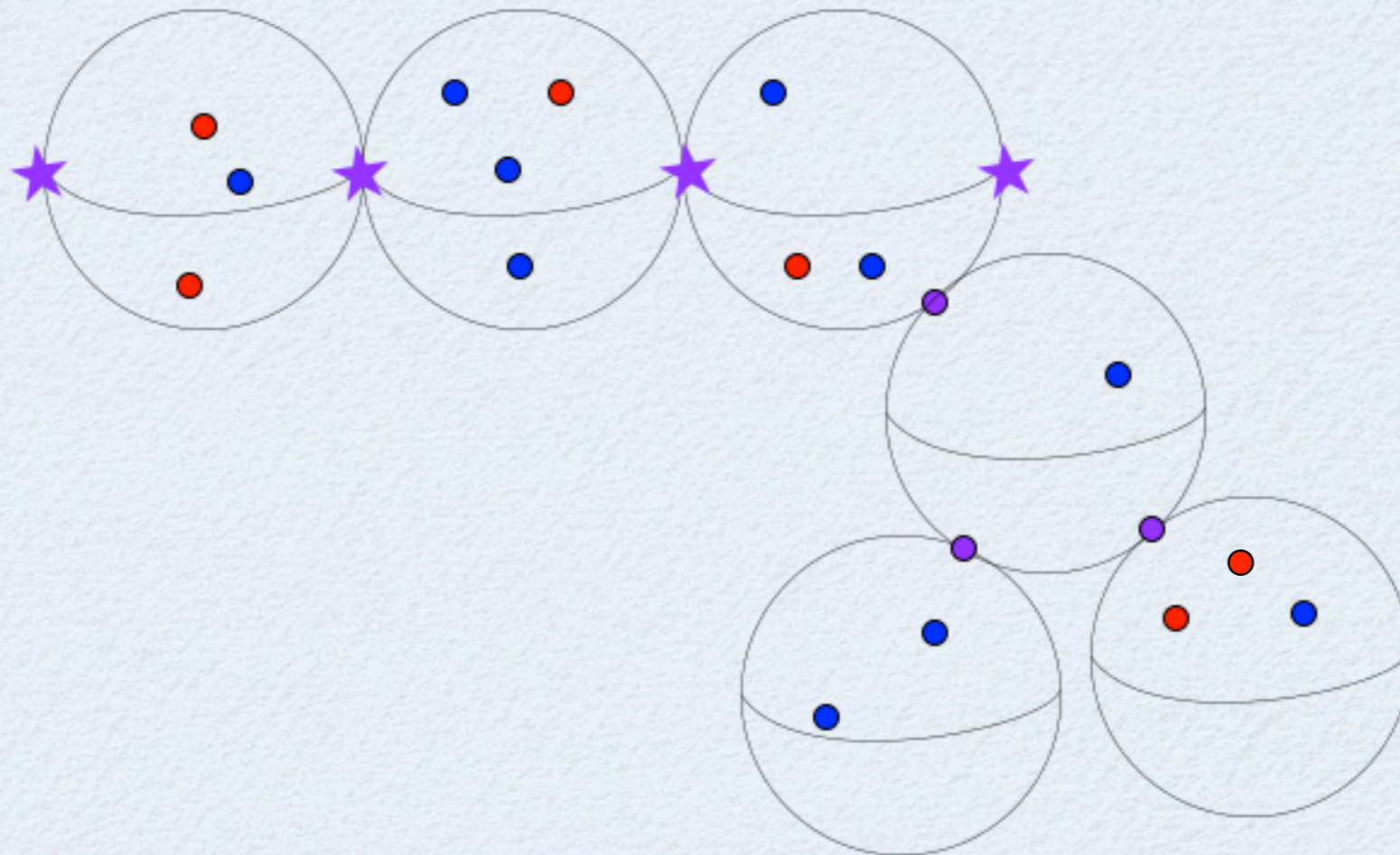
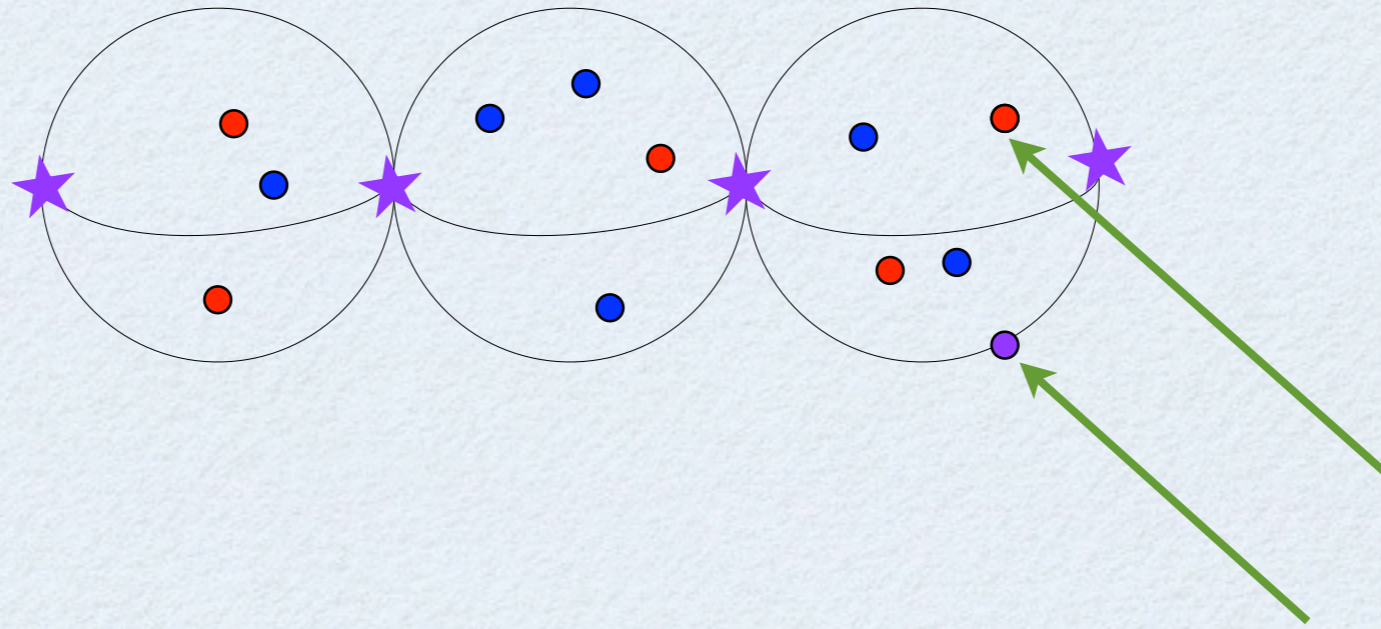


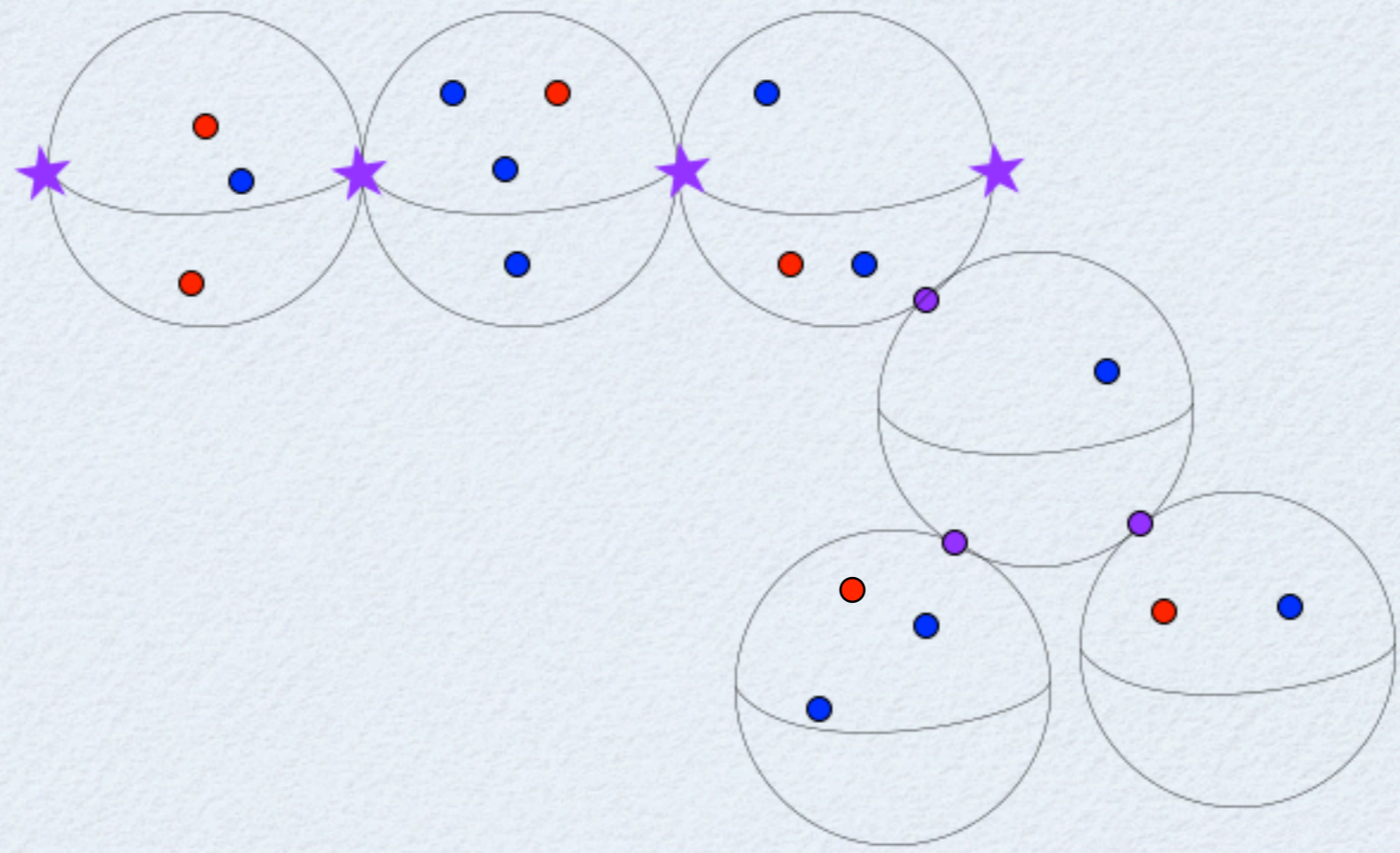
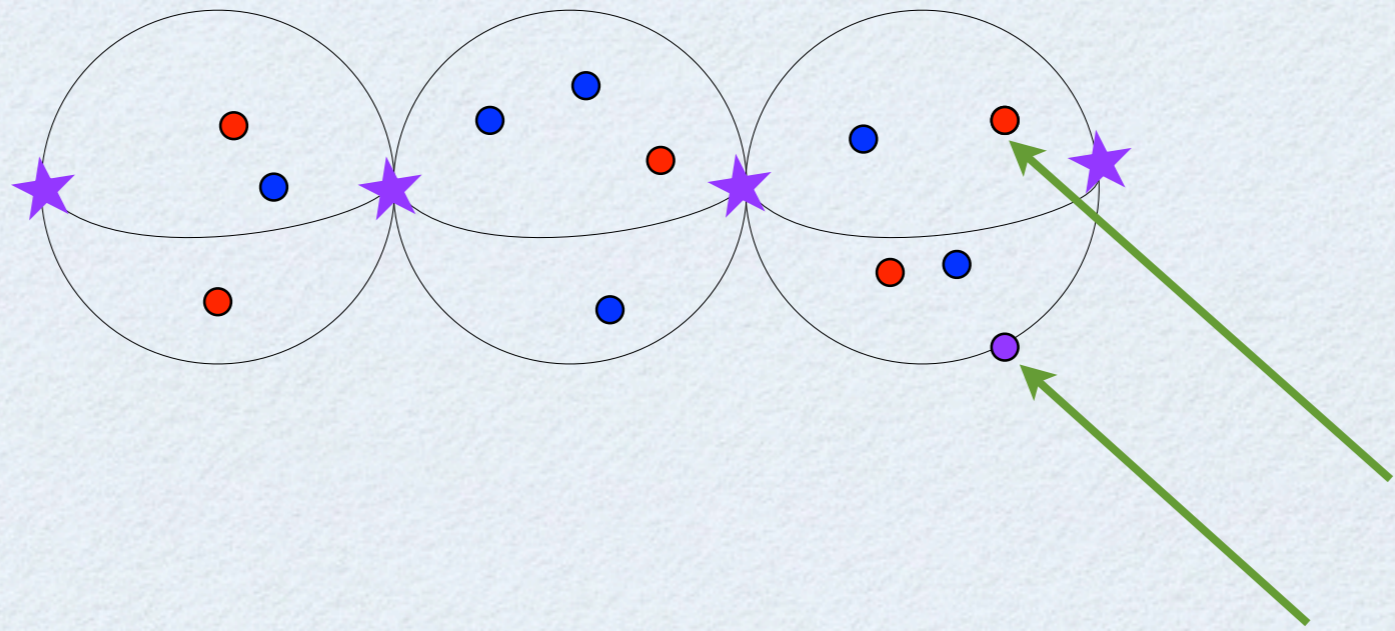


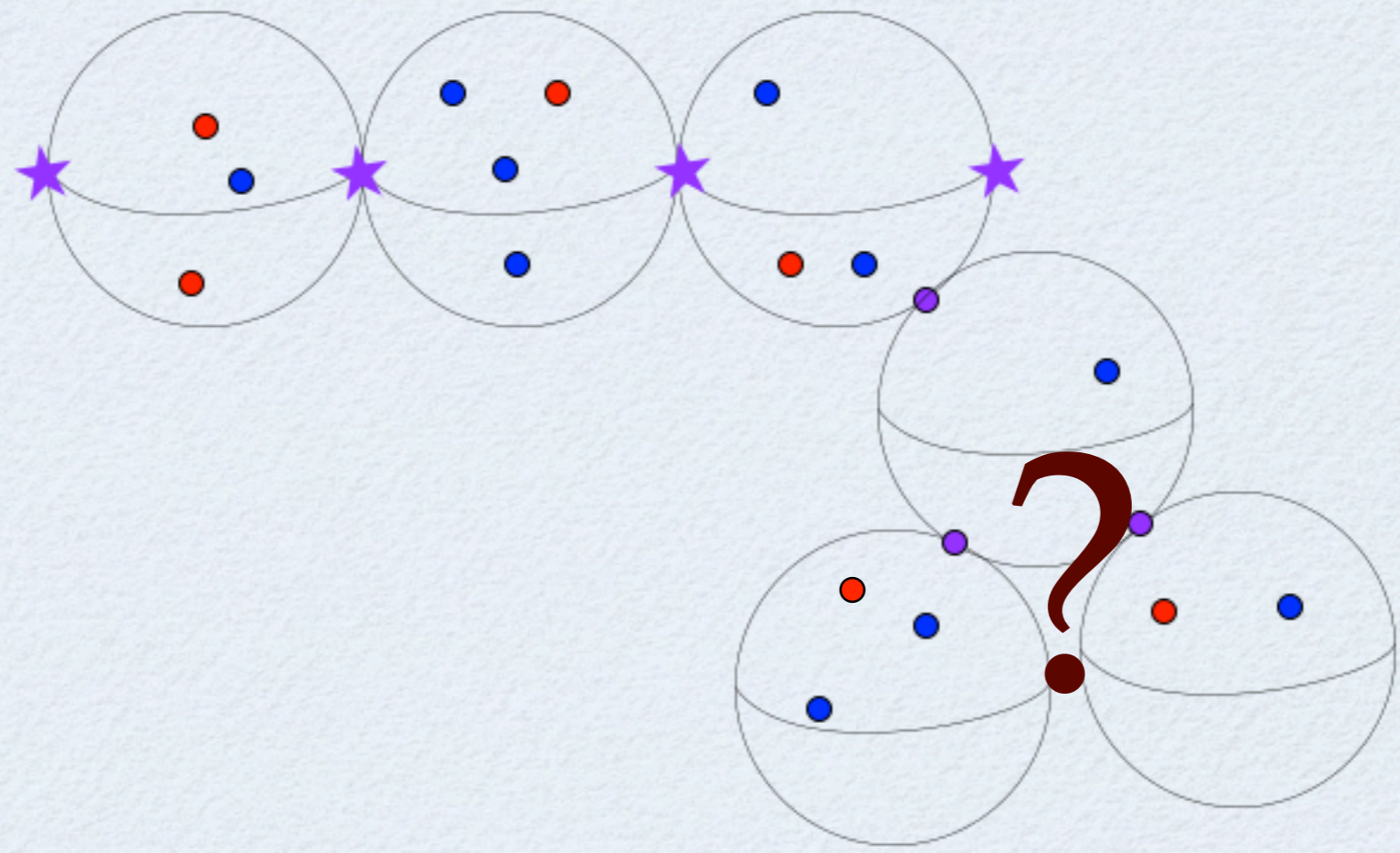
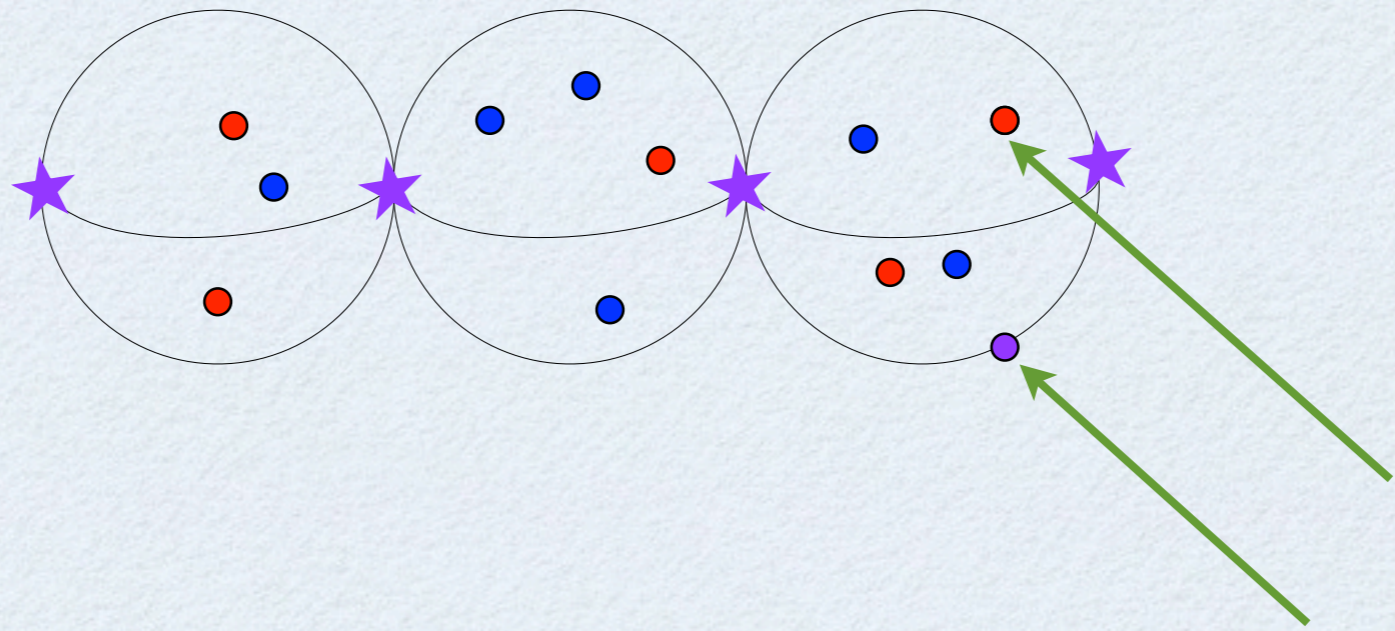


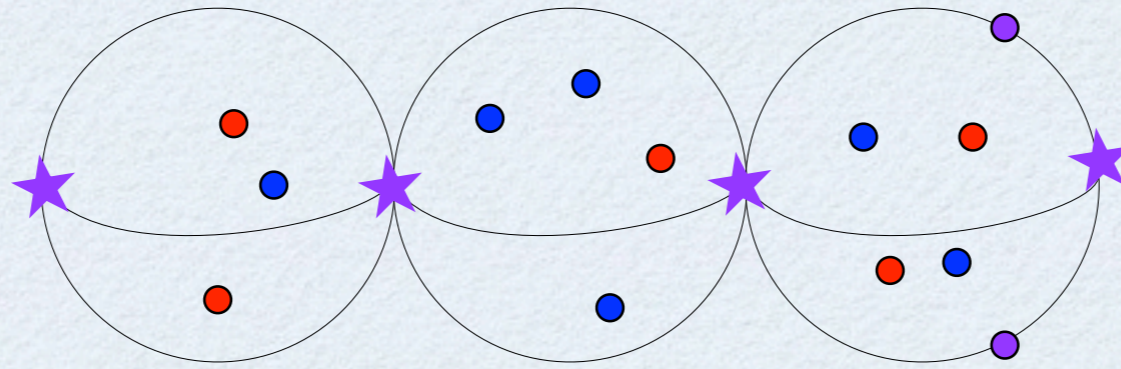


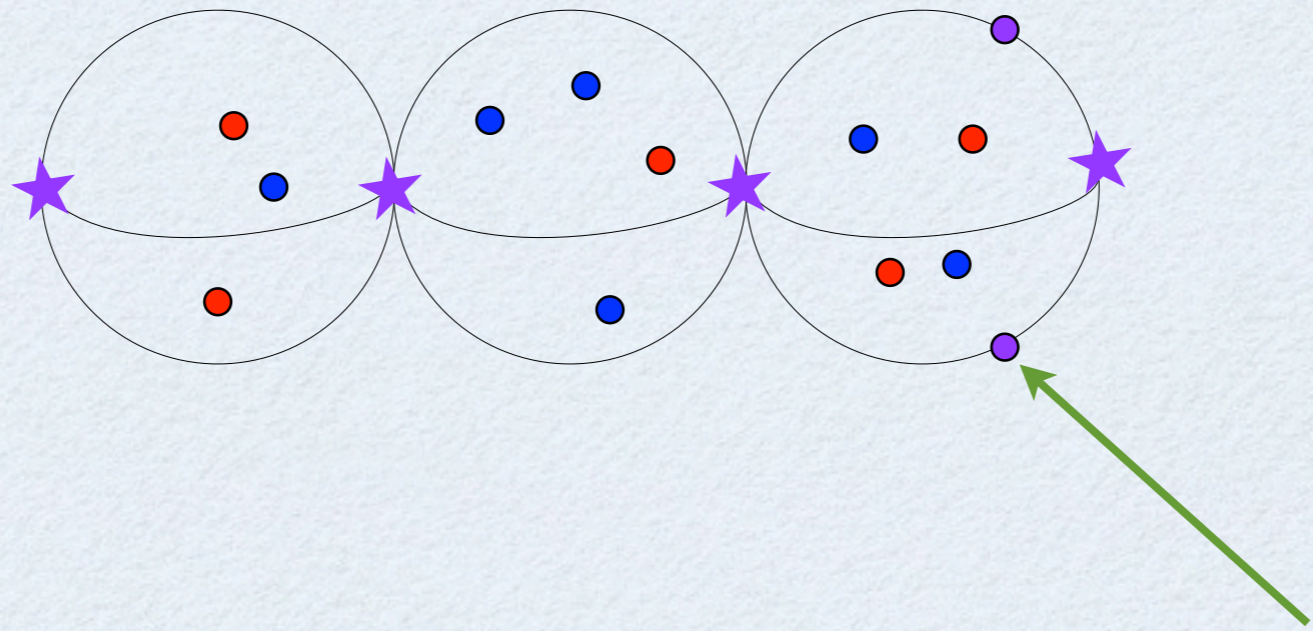


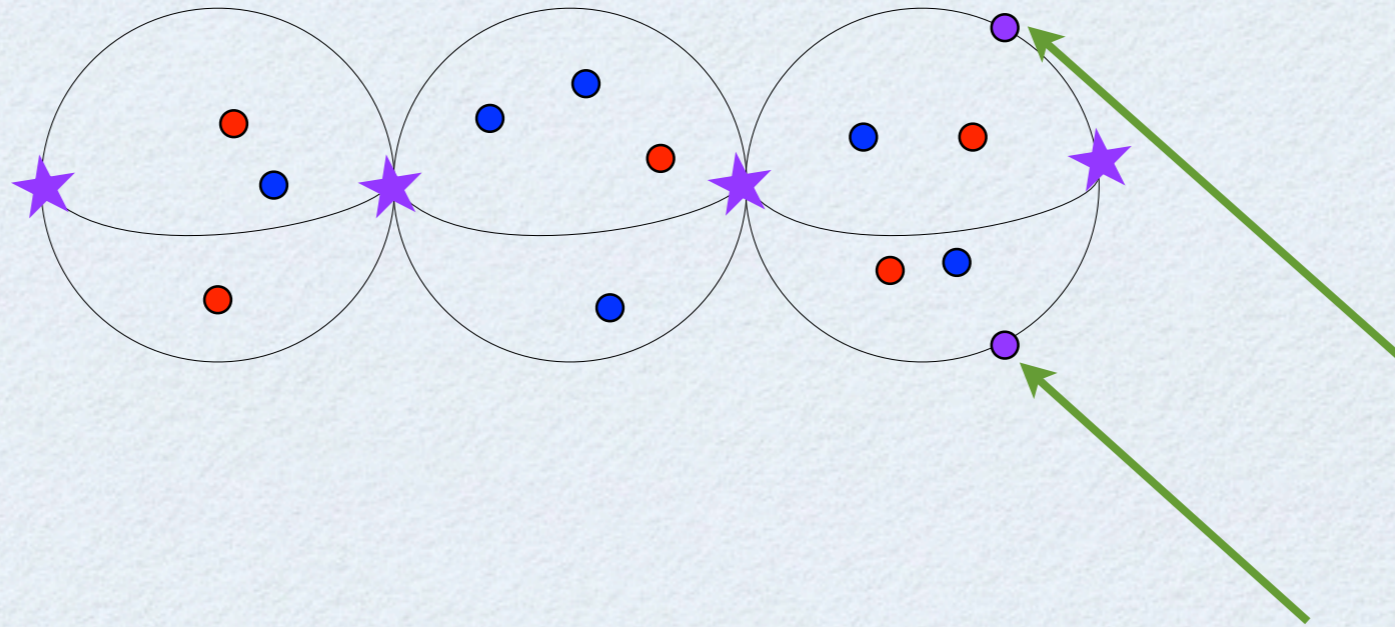


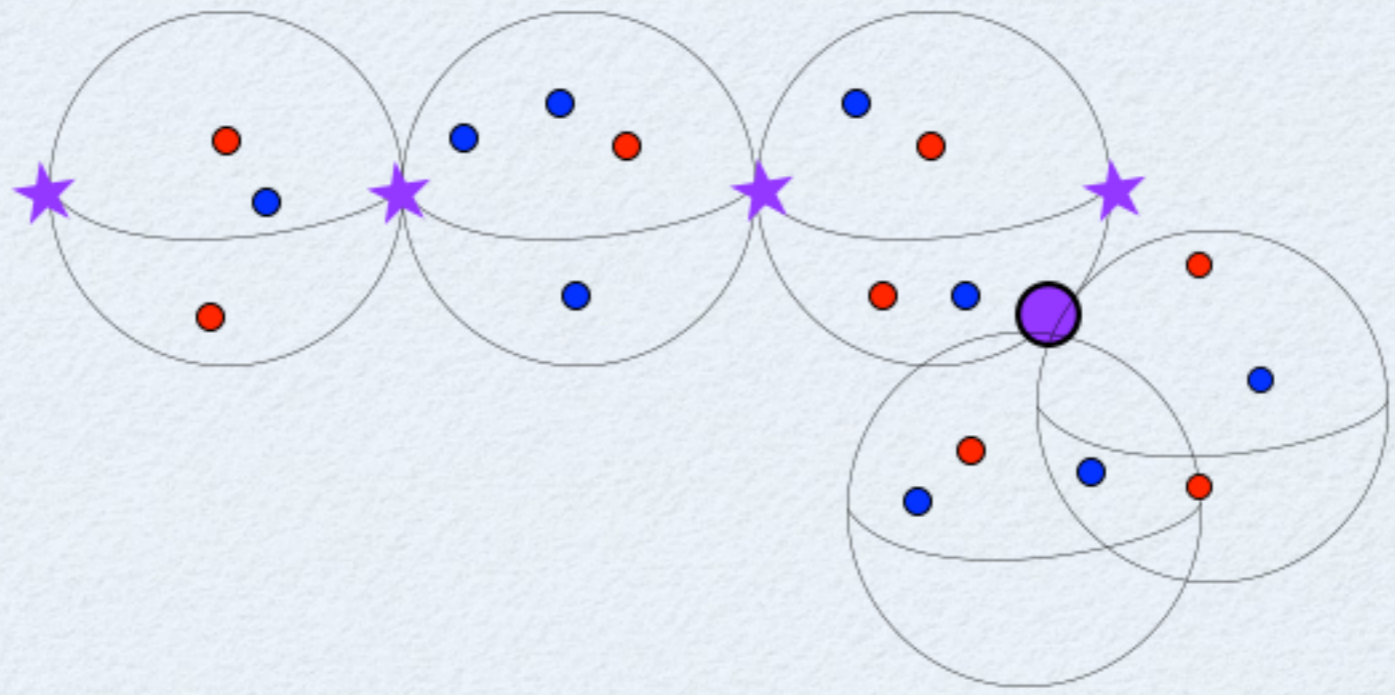
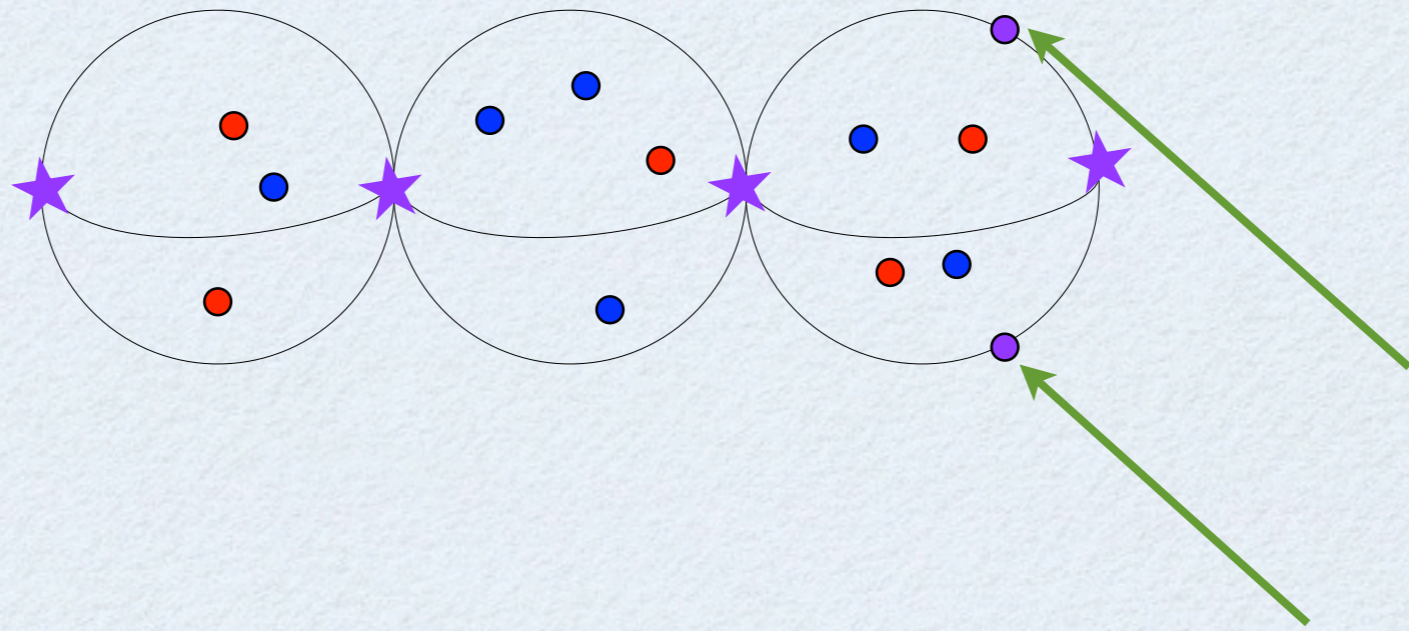


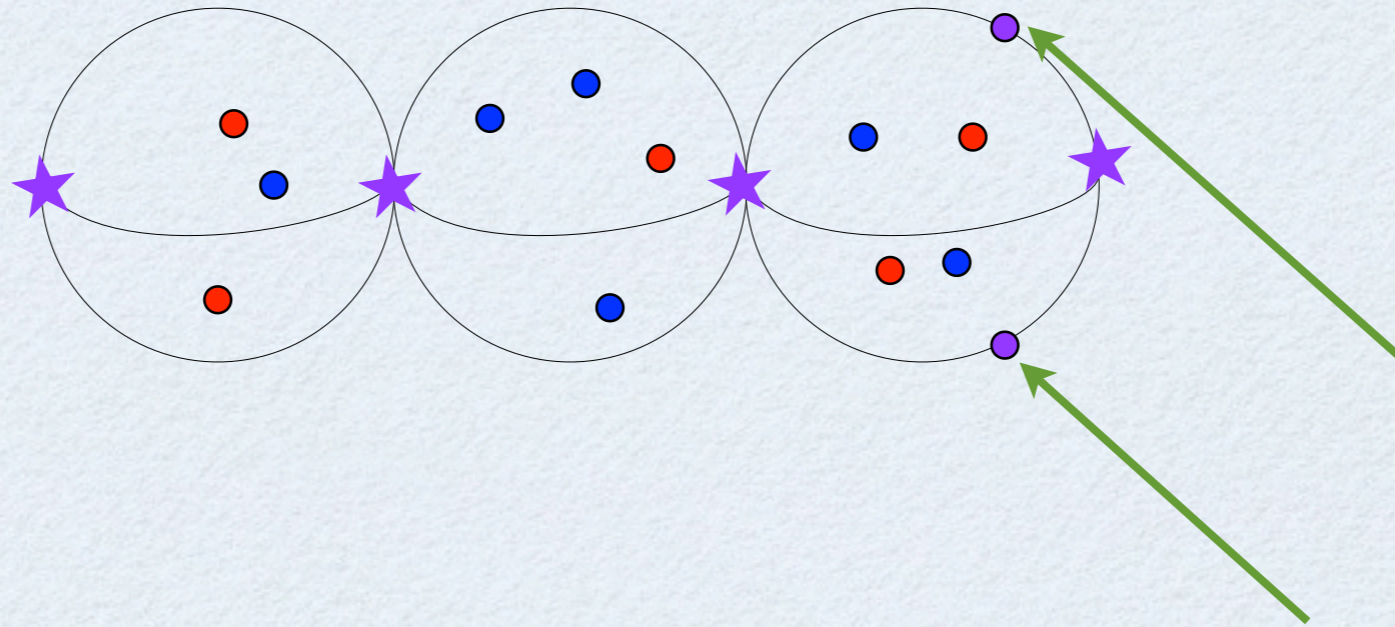


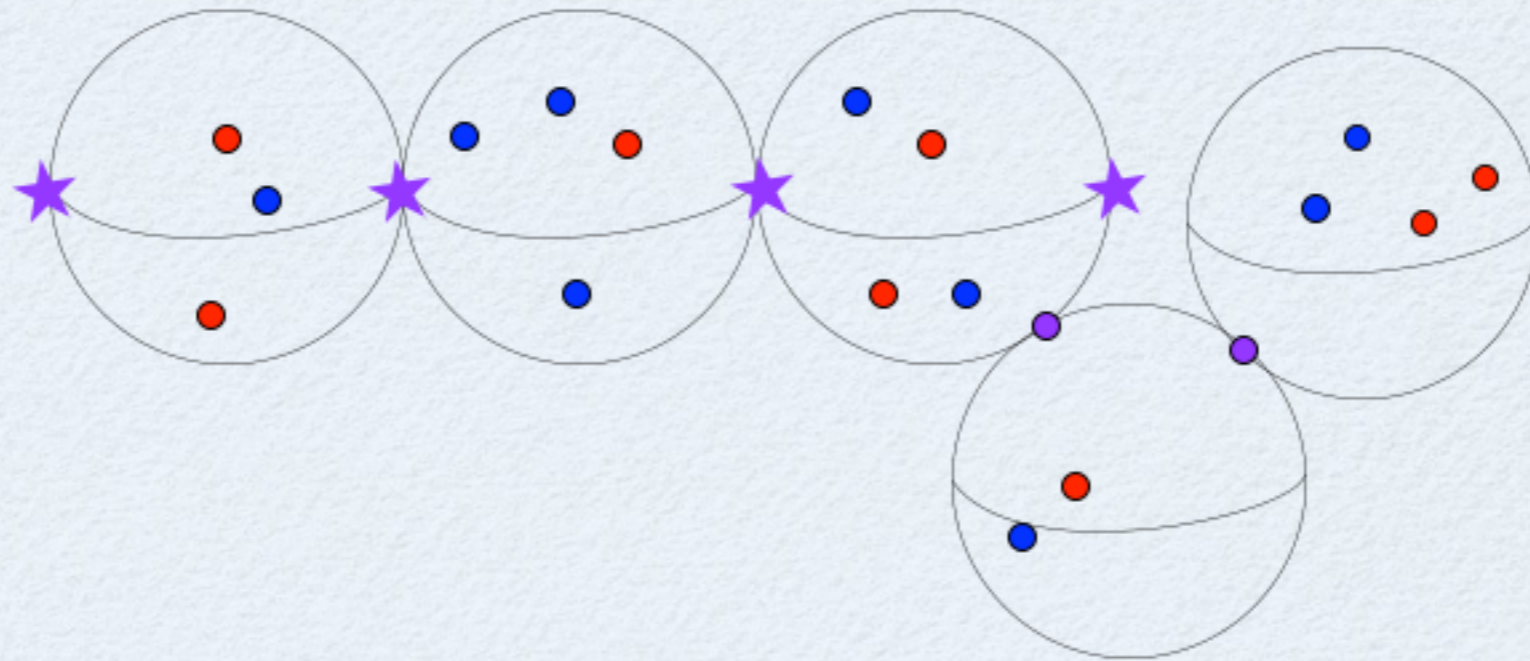
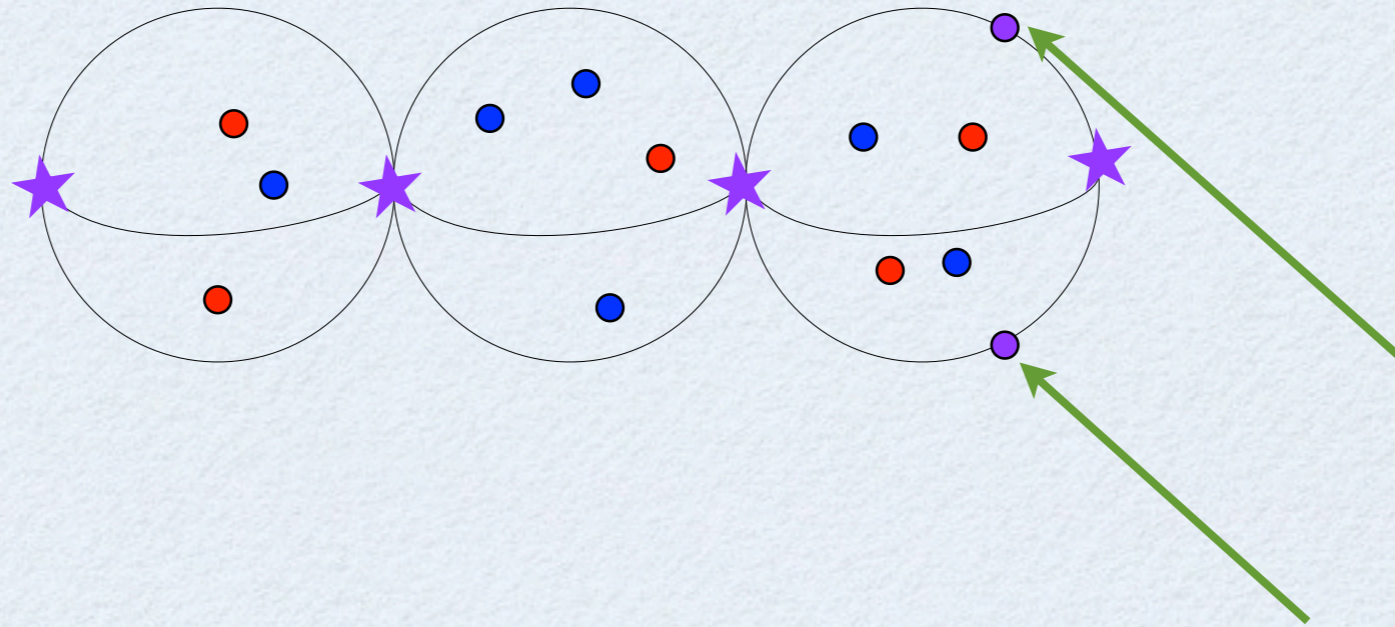


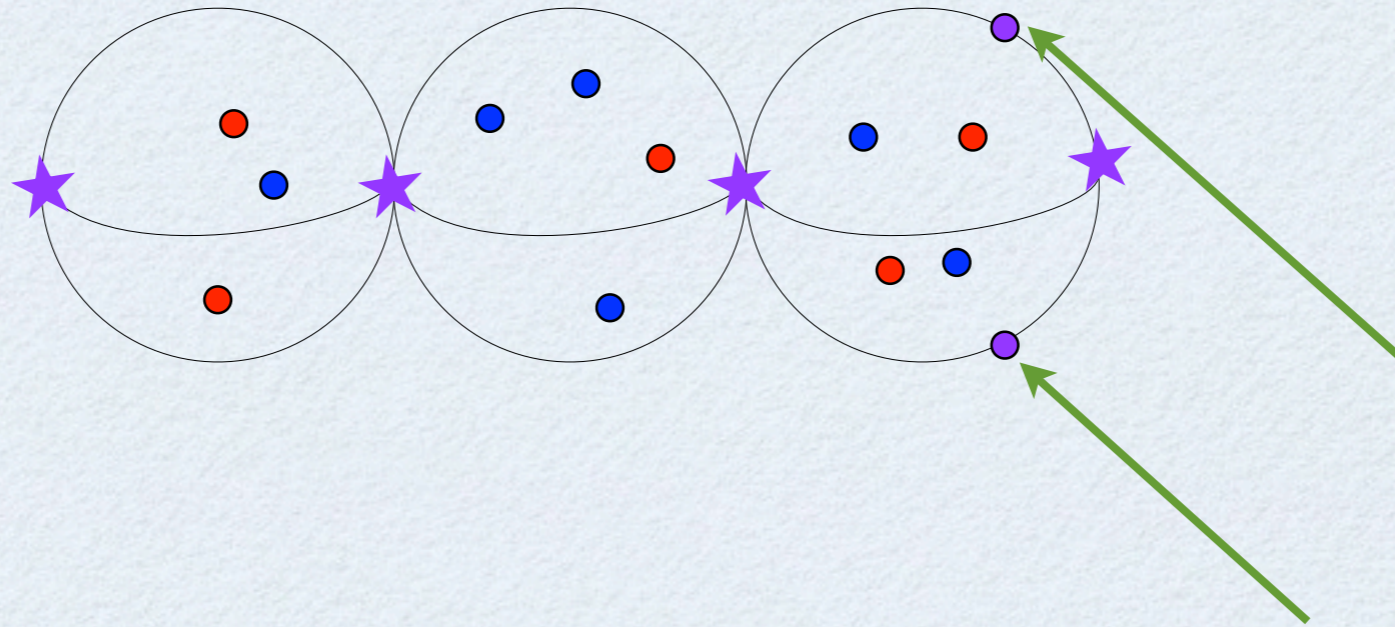


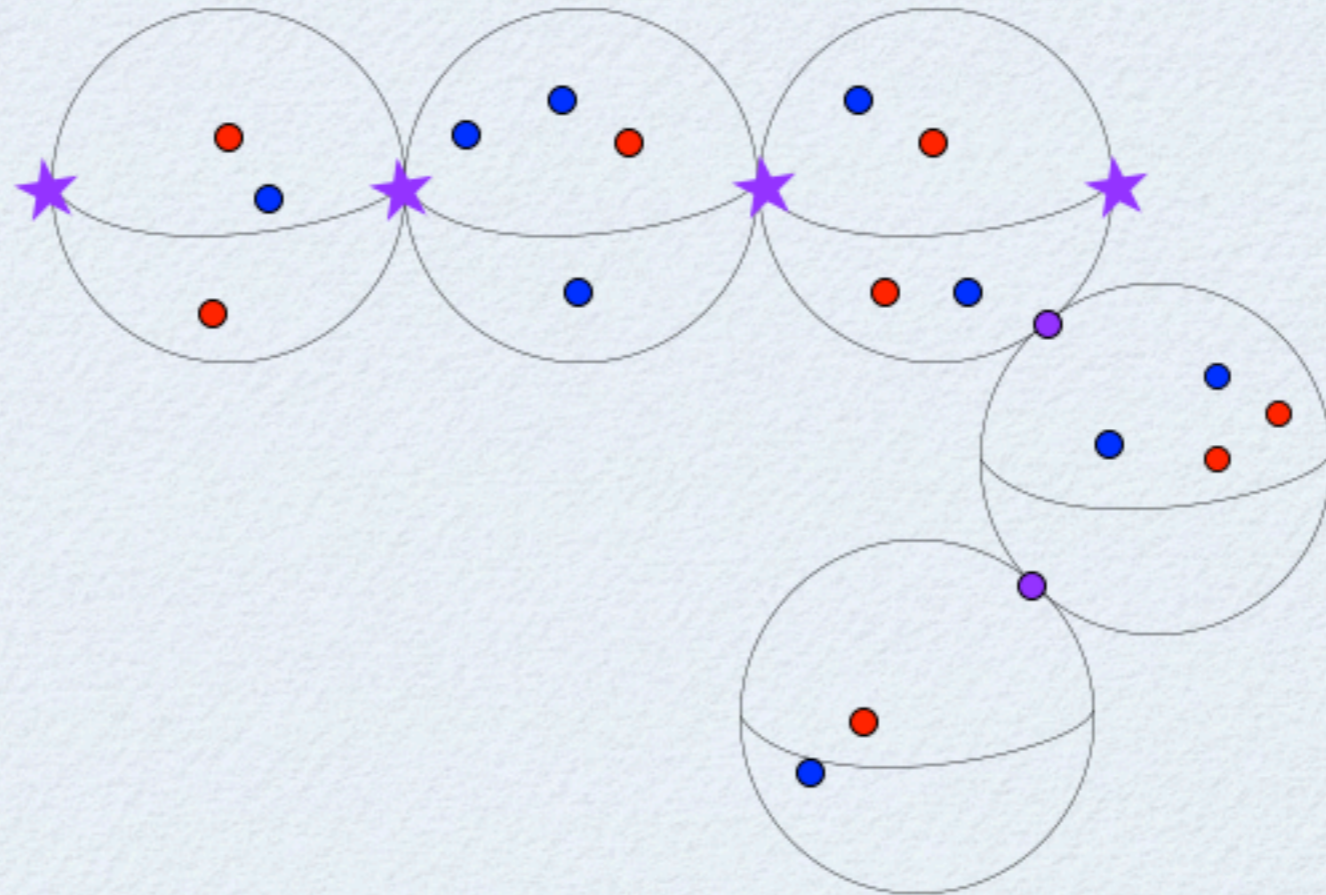
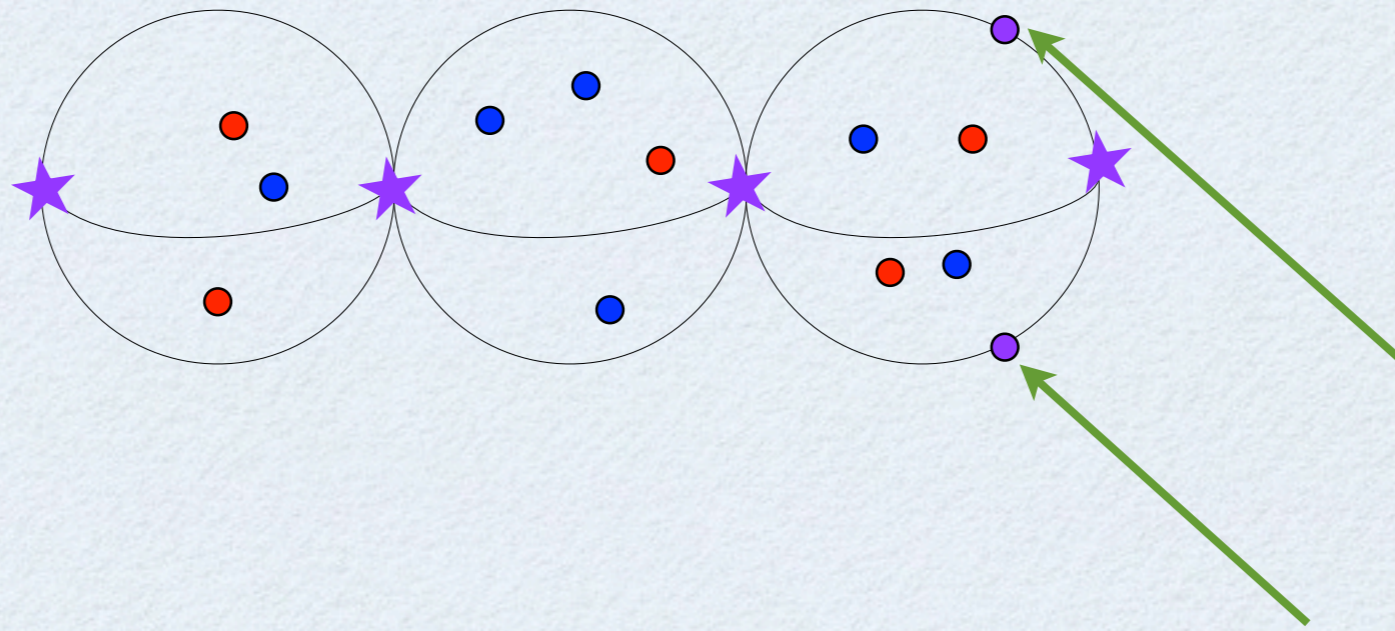


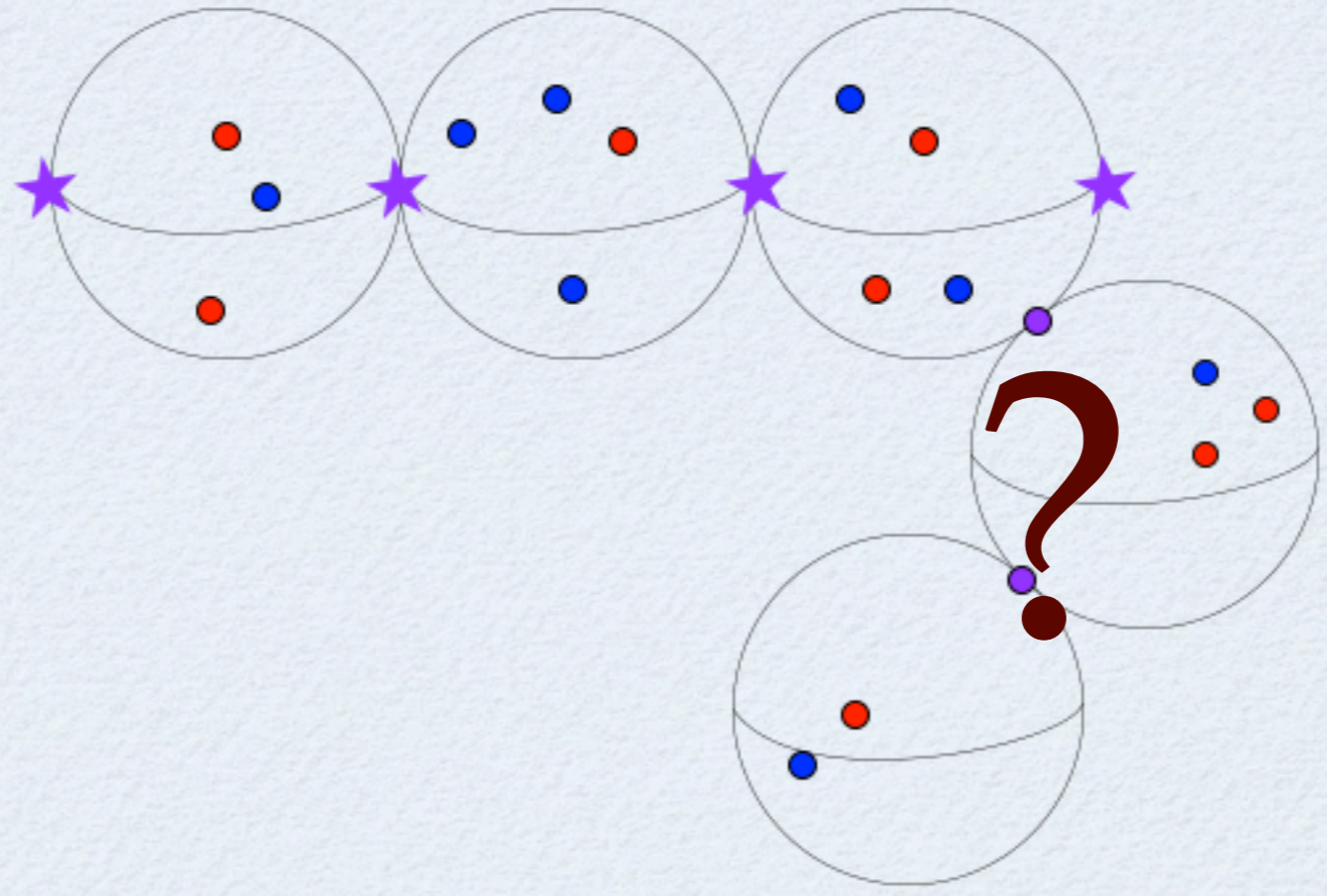
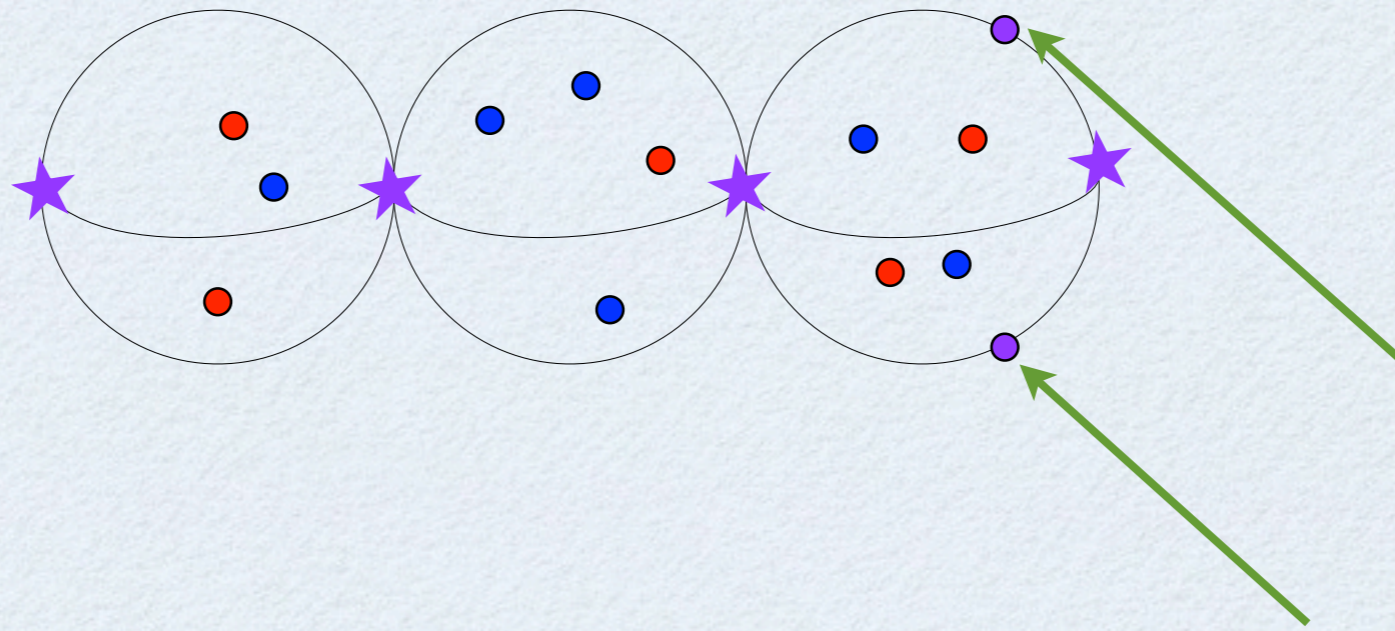












In summary...

critical trunk

two distinguished points

$(\text{critical trunk})/\sigma_d$

points of indeterminacy

relative positions

Finally, $\mu : \mathbb{P}^n \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$

In summary...

critical trunk

two distinguished points

(critical trunk) / σ_d

points of indeterminacy

relative positions

Finally, $\mu : \mathbb{P}^n \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$

Proposition. This procedure defines a rational map $\tilde{G} : \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^n \dashrightarrow \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^n$ which extends the map $G = \mu \circ s : \mathbb{P}^n \dashrightarrow \mathbb{P}^n$

Lemma. The map $\tilde{G} : \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^n \dashrightarrow \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^n$ has finite fibers.

Proof. Let η be a tree of spheres in the image of \tilde{G} . Only the critical trunk is relevant as the preimages of all noncritical spheres are just these spheres themselves.

Critical trunk: Marked points and nodes.

Marked points: There are only d possibilities for the inverse image of each.

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We can compute dynamical degrees.

Questions.

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Basilica-Basilica, $\lambda_1 = 2$

Basilica-Rabbit, λ_1 is the largest real root of

$$p(\lambda) = \lambda^4 + \lambda^3 - 2\lambda^2 - 8\lambda - 8,$$

$$\lambda_1 \approx 2.229209$$

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What do these numbers mean for the mating maps? What about $\sigma_f : \overline{\mathcal{T}}_P \rightarrow \overline{\mathcal{T}}_P$?

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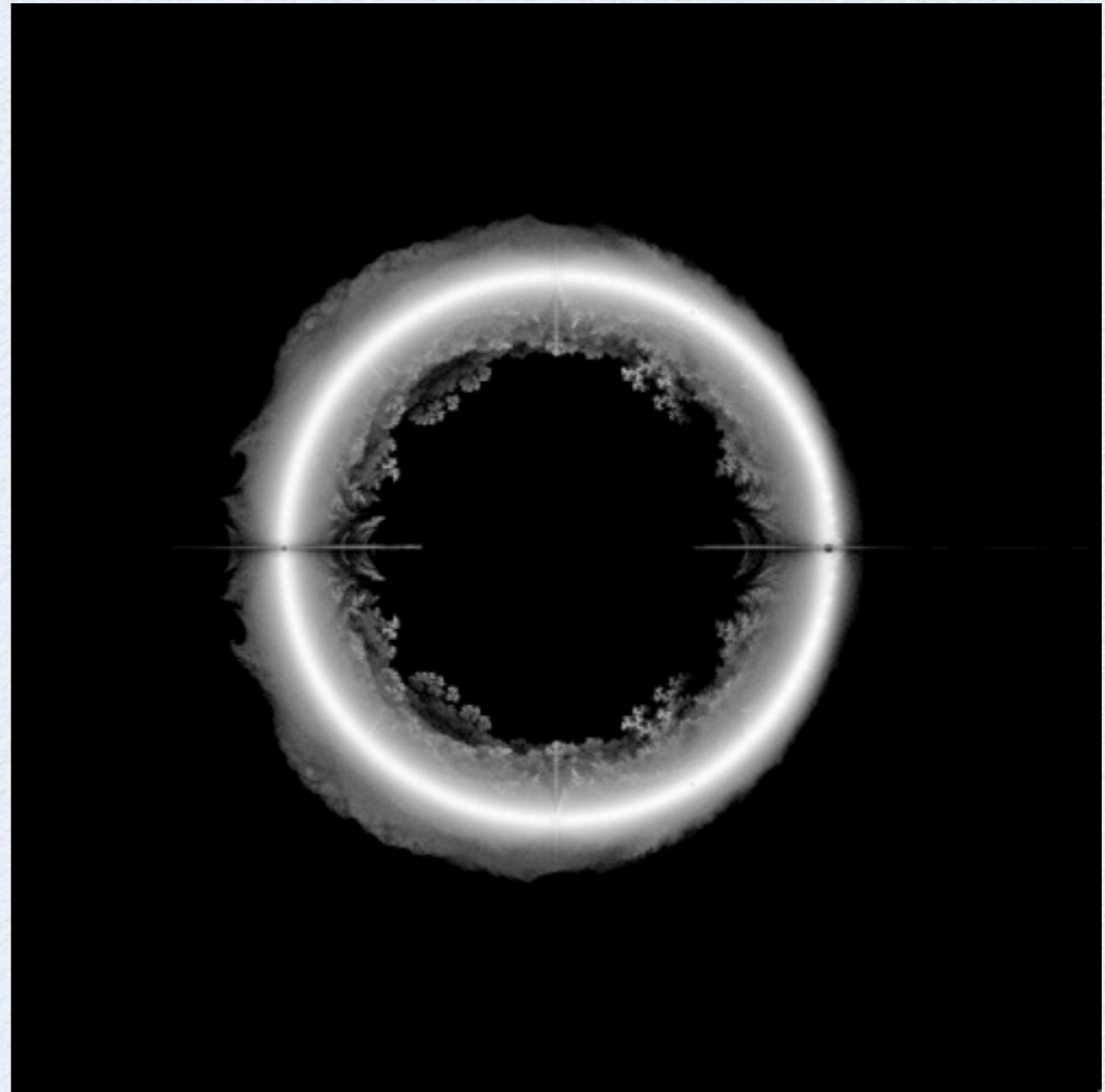
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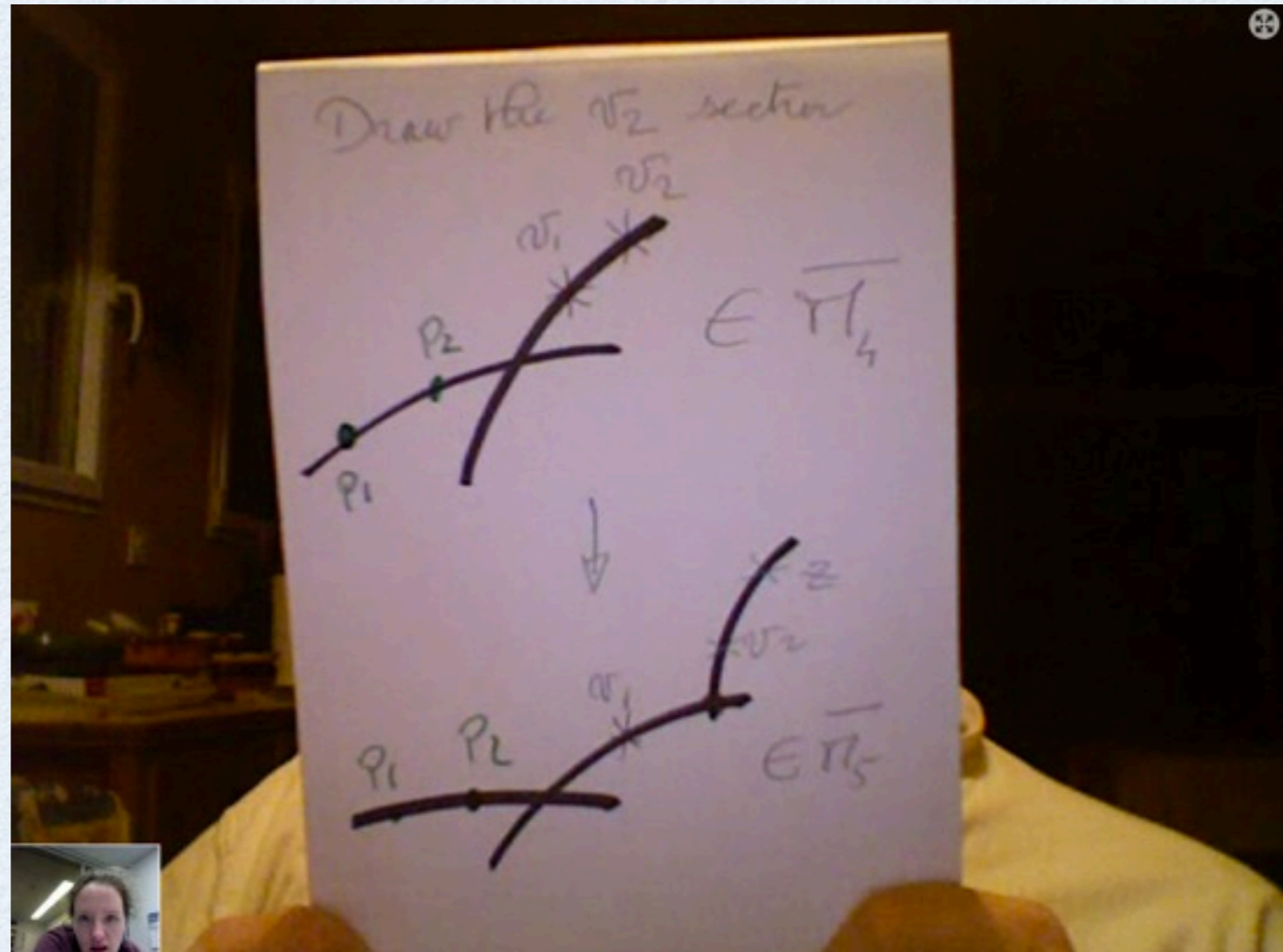
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Conjecture. No.

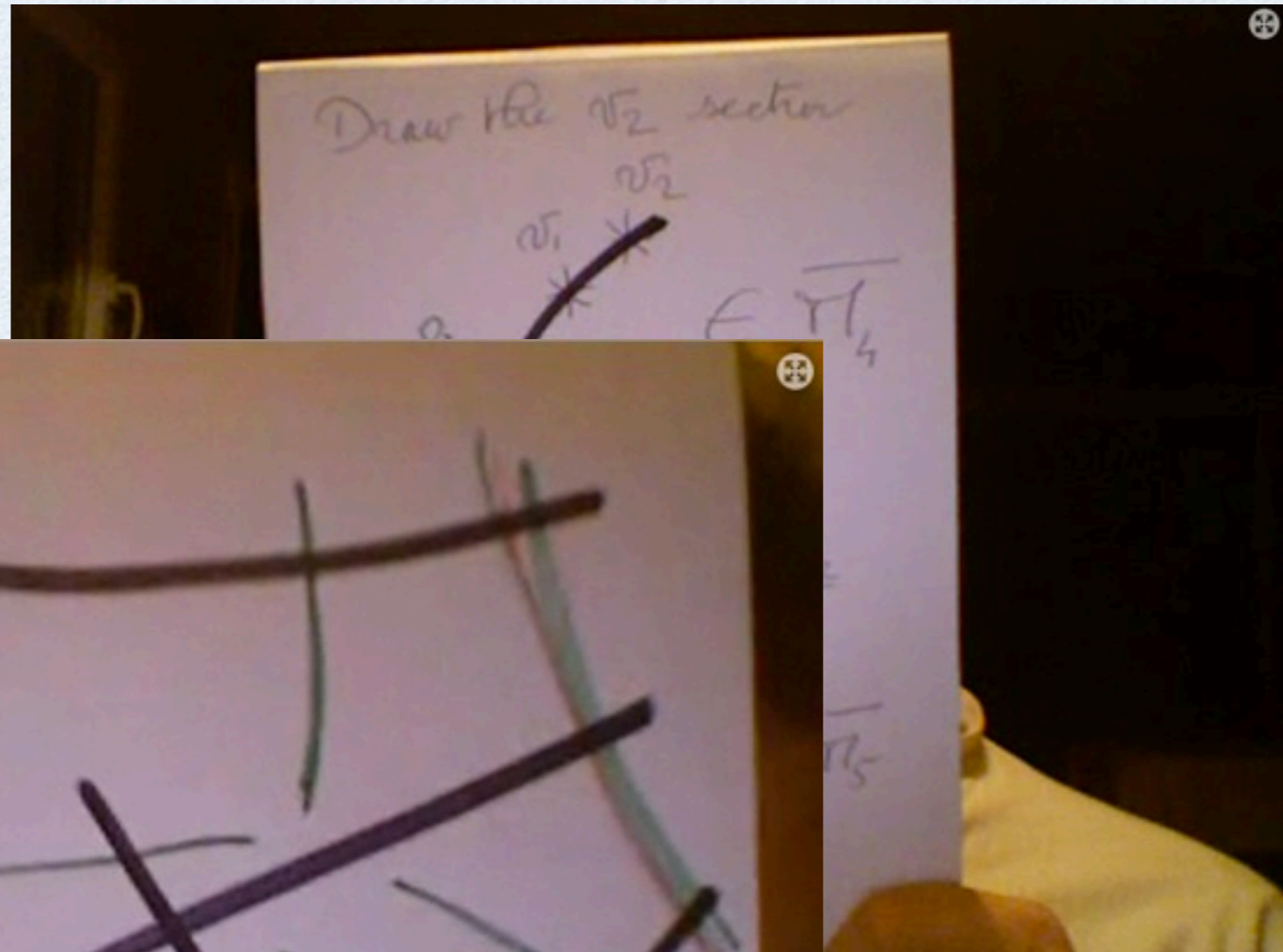
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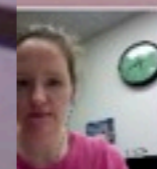
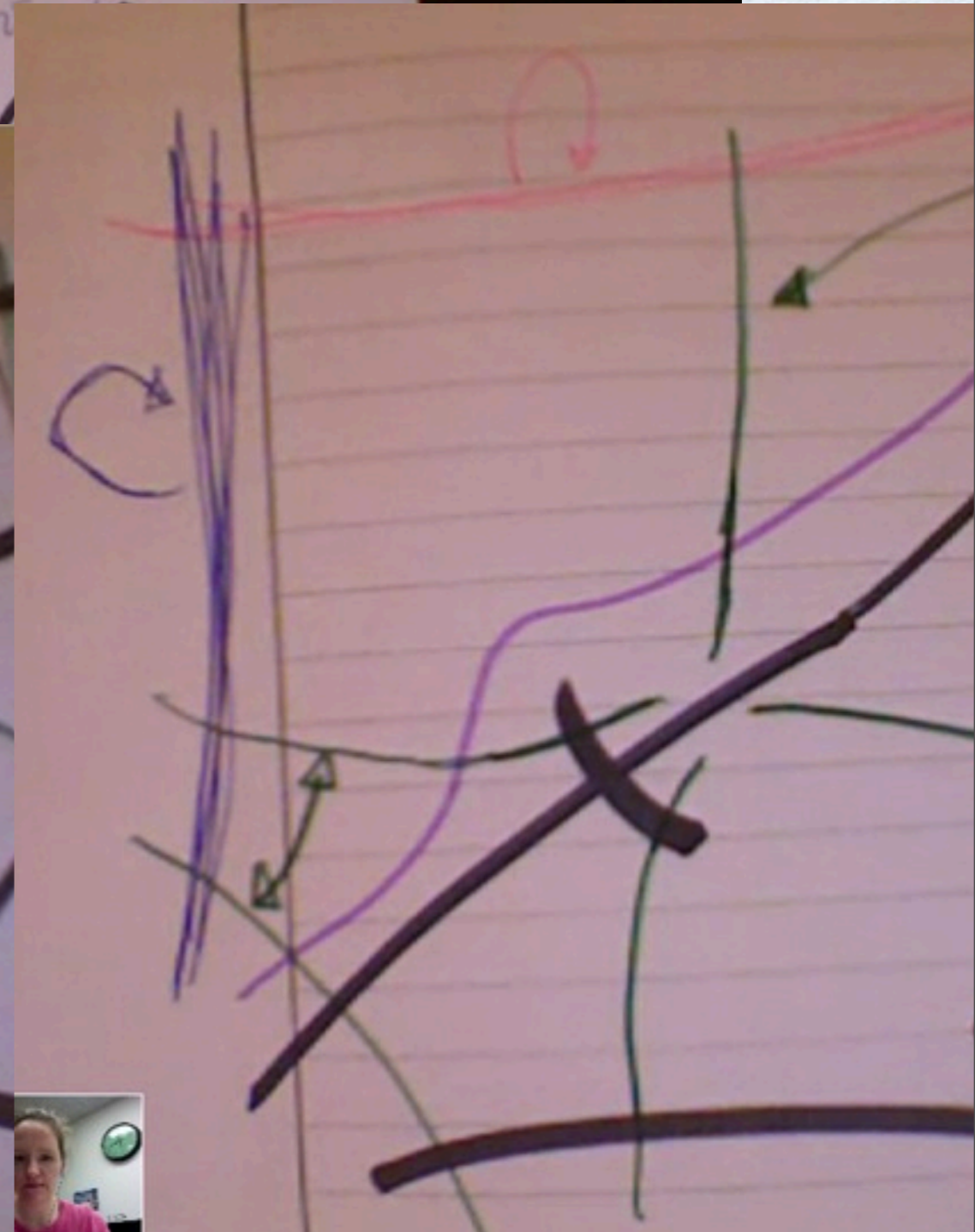
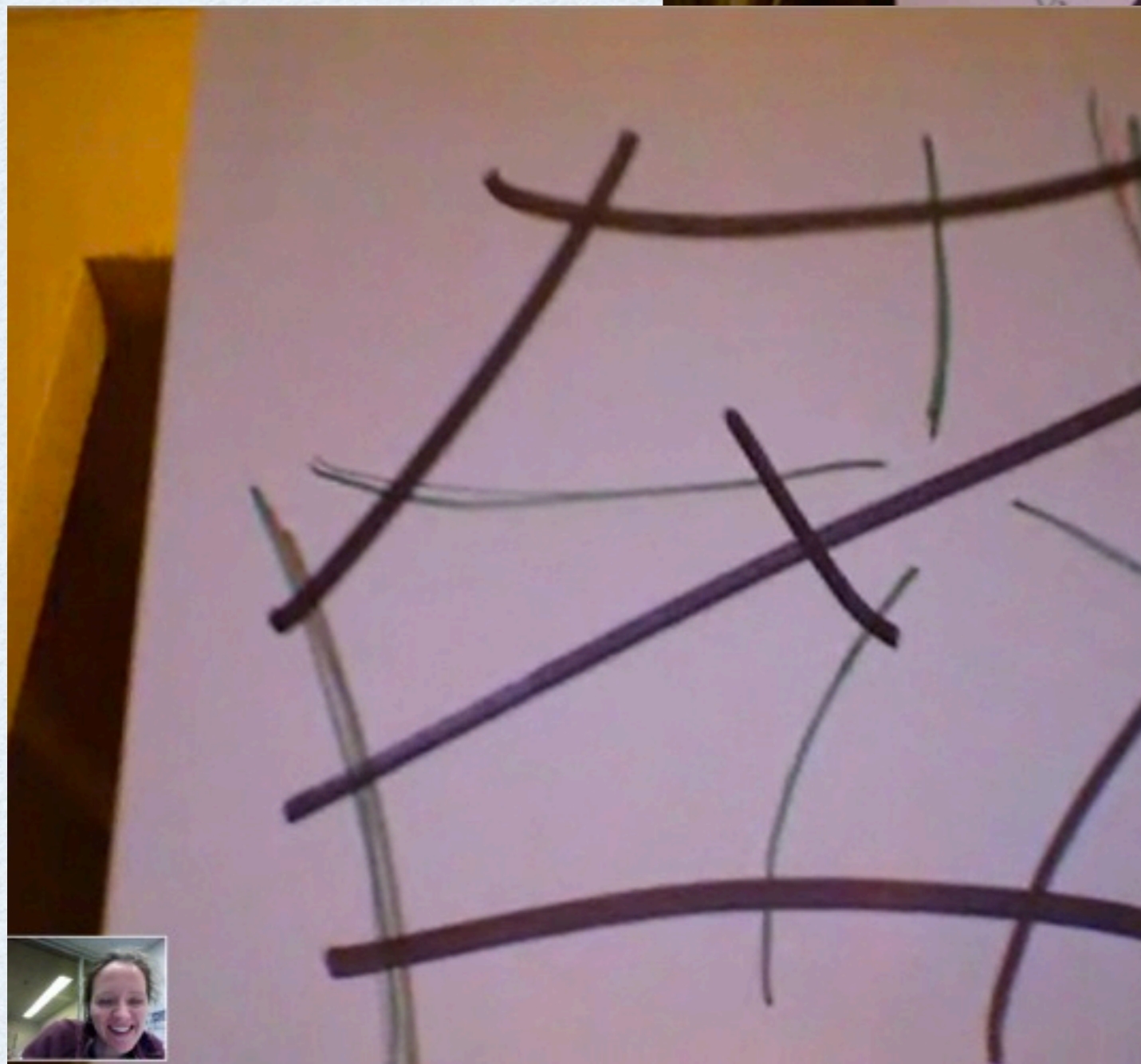
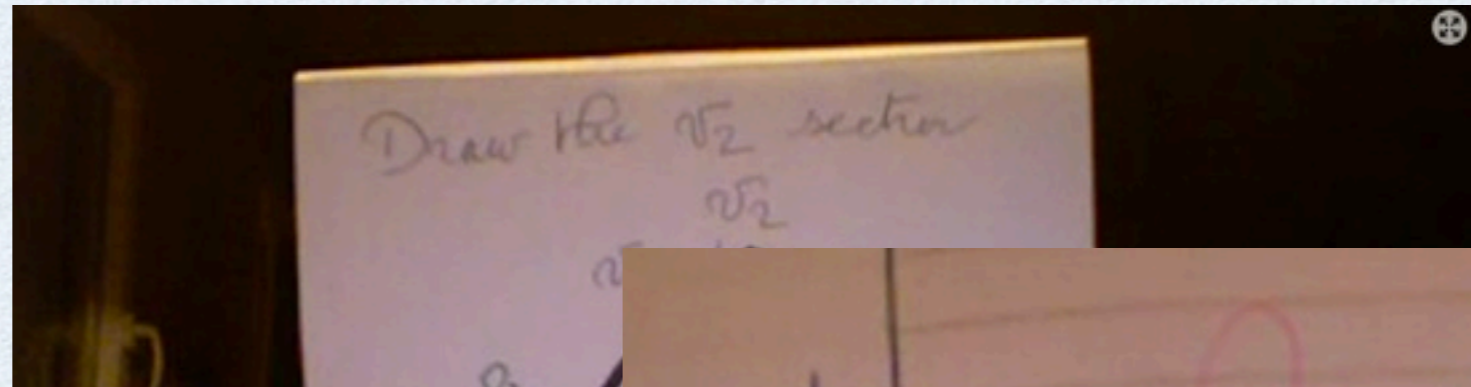
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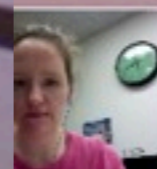
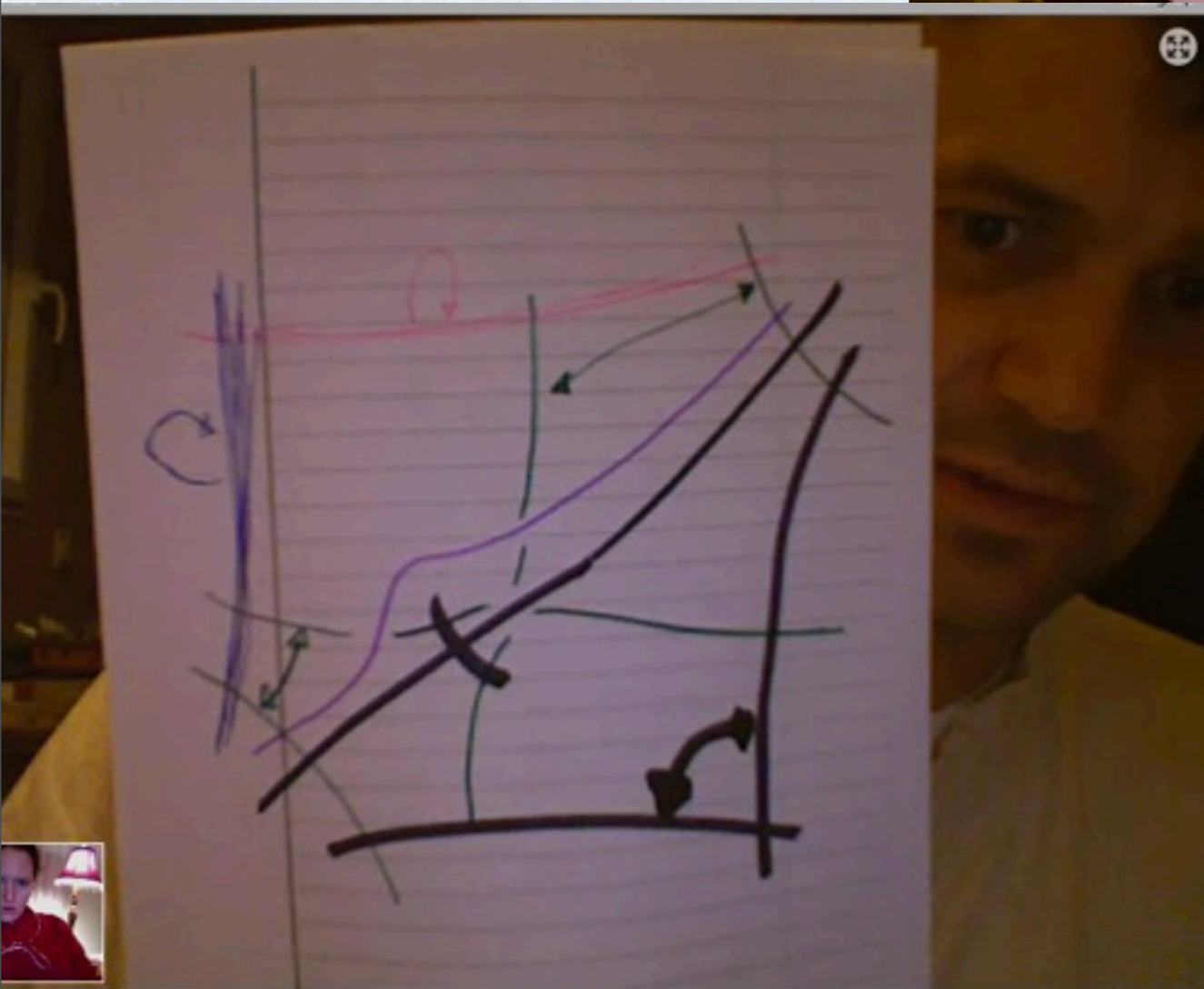
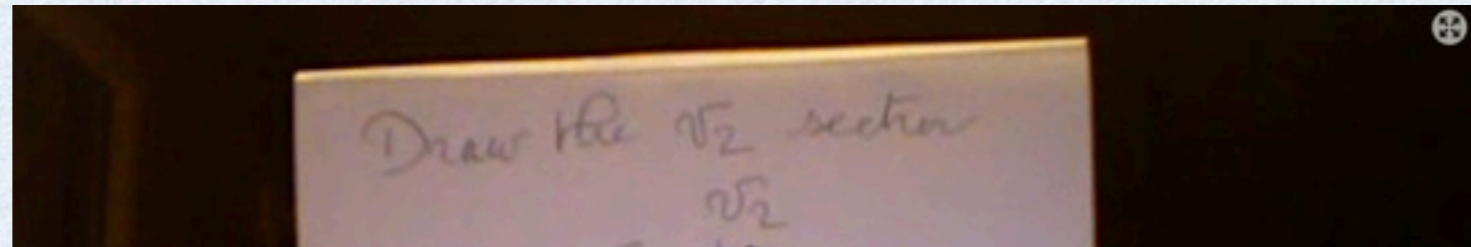
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thank you for your attention!