

Infinite groups: algebra, combinatorics and drawing pictures!

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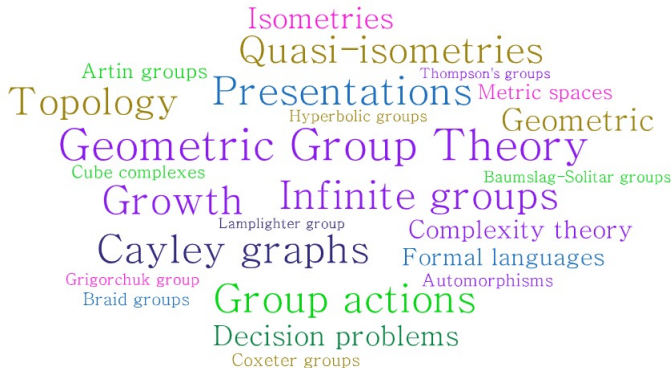
PiWORKS Seminar
28th January 2025

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The University of Manchester

- 1 Introduction to Geometric Group Theory
- 2 My complicated relationship with RAAGs
- 3 Career journey and inspiration...???

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Definition

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- 2 **Associativity:**
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- 4 **Inverses:** for all $x \in G$, there exists a unique $x^{-1} \in G$ such that $x * x^{-1} = x^{-1} * x = e$.

(Group) Presentations

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- $\langle a, b \mid ab = ba \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}^2$: *free abelian group*
- $\langle S \mid \emptyset \rangle \cong F_S$: *free group*

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$$F_2 \times F_2$$



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In general, these problems are undecidable.

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- Isomorphism problem (Droms): $A_\Gamma \cong A_\Lambda \Leftrightarrow \Gamma \cong \Lambda$
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Problem: multiple words over generators can represent the same group element

Words and group elements in RAAGs

$\Gamma :$ 

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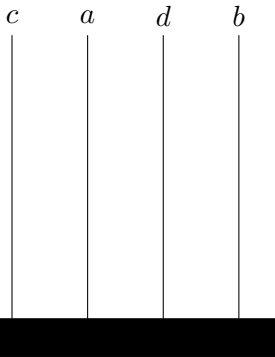
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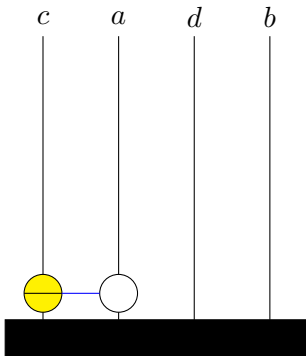
Better answer: by constructing *pilings*.

Pilings



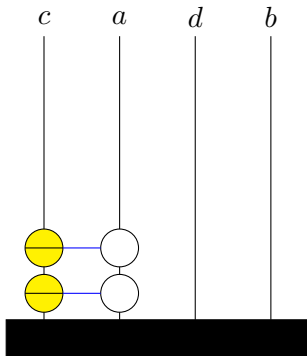
$$w = c^{-2}b^{-1}dcba c a^{-1}cb^{-1}$$

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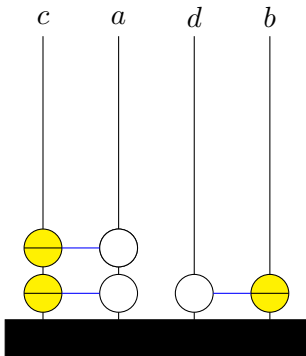
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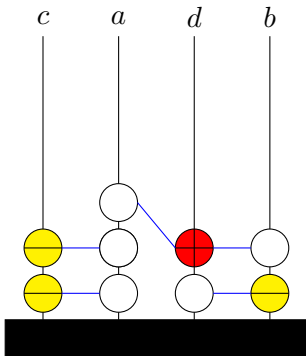
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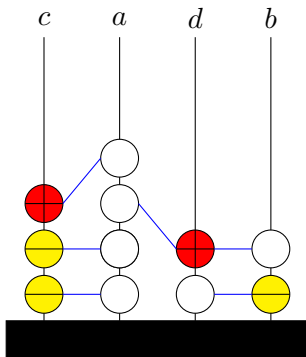
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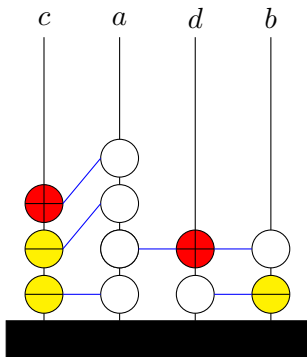


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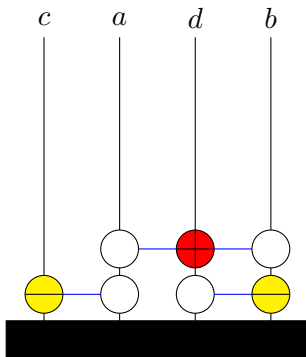


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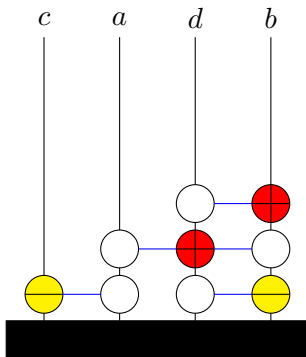
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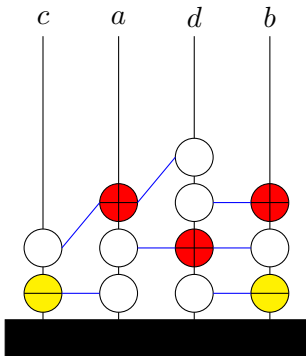
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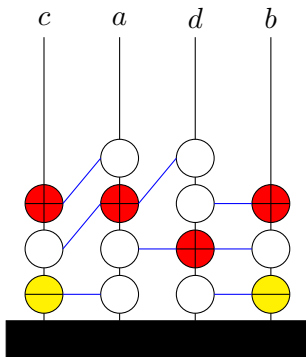
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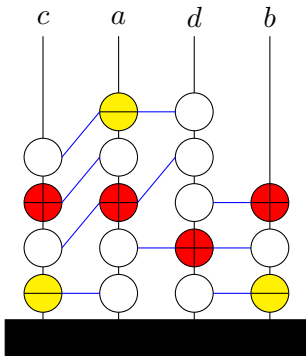
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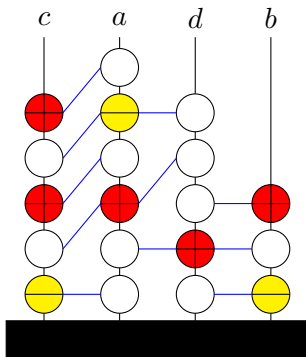


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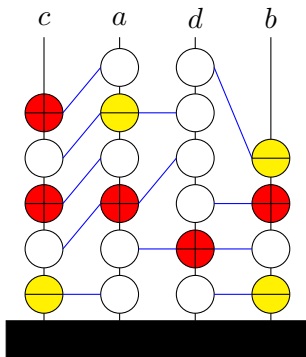
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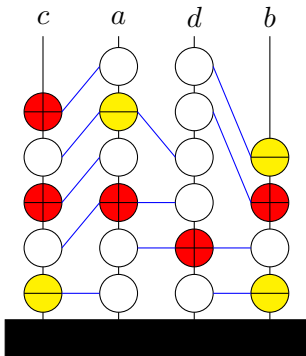
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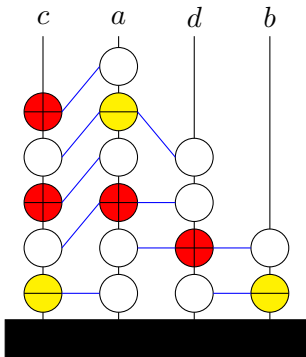
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Motivation:

- Stronger version of $\text{CP}(G)$
- Decidable/undecidable $\text{TCP}(G)$ can lead to decidable/undecidable $\text{CP}(G')$ for *extensions* G' of G , i.e. $G \leq G'$.

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Idea: adapt CGW algorithm for $\text{CP}(A_\Gamma)$

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Example 1: **inversions**

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Example 2: **graph automorphisms**

Automorphisms of RAAGs

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(Autos of RAAGS: Laurence, Servatius)

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Other fun things I think about



- 1 Introduction to Geometric Group Theory
- 2 My complicated relationship with RAAGs
- 3 Career journey and inspiration...???

Let's start at the beginning



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- Love at first sight

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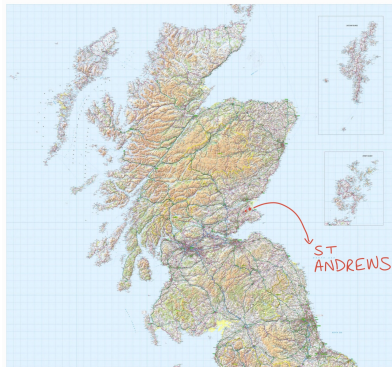


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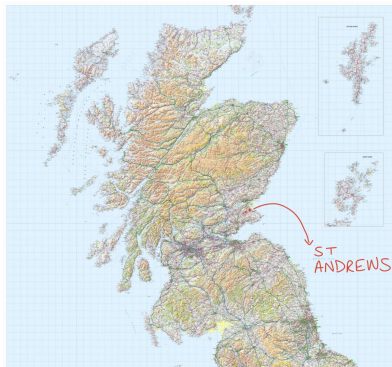
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- Dream job: do maths all day

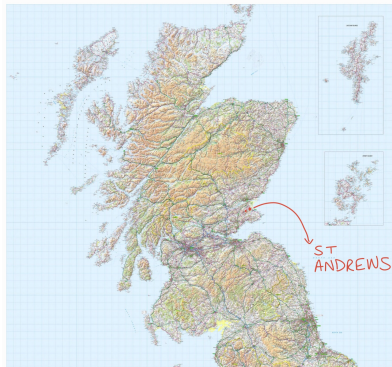


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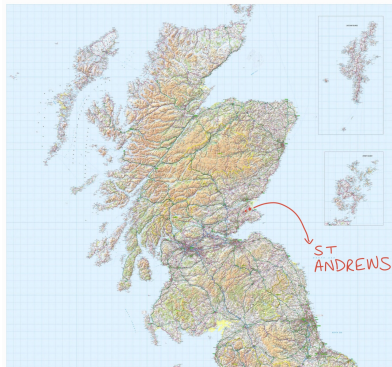
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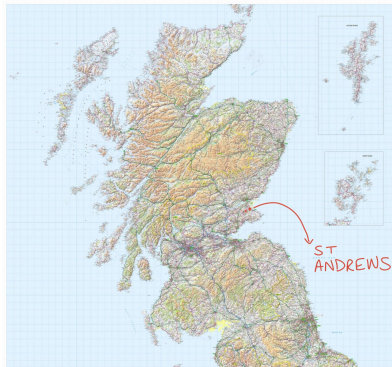
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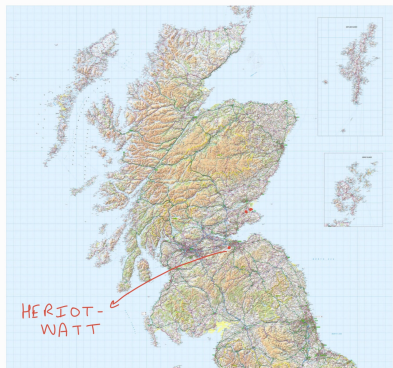
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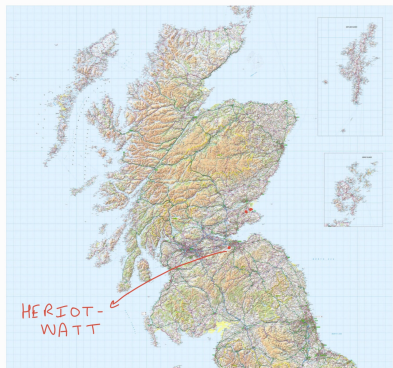
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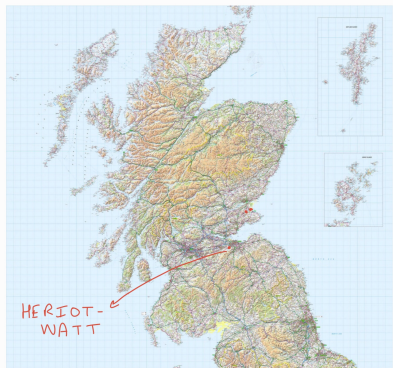
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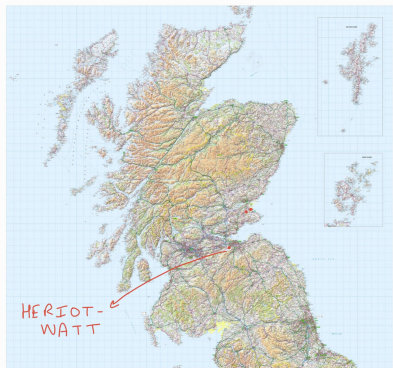




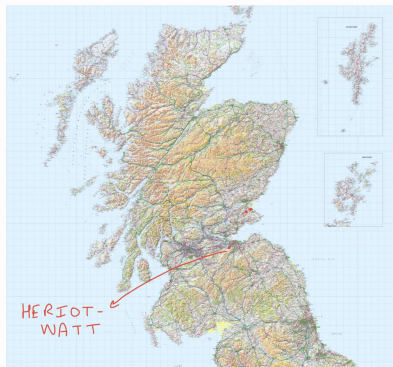
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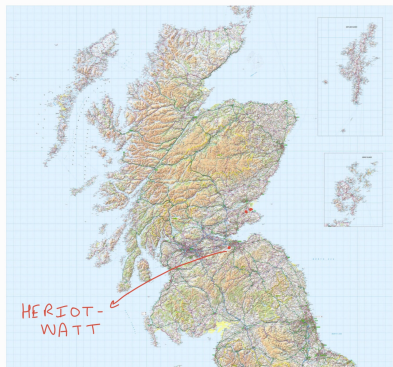
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The logo for the Piscopia initiative is displayed on a dark green rectangular background. The word "Piscopia" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font. Below it, the word "initiative" is written in a smaller, orange, sans-serif font.

Piscopia
initiative

Piscopia
initiative





And now



The University of Manchester

And now



The University of Manchester

- Research Fellow, HIMR

And now



The University of Manchester

- Research Fellow, HIMR
- Biggest change so far

And now



The University of Manchester

- Research Fellow, HIMR
- Biggest change so far
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- **What is right for you?**

References



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Thank you for listening!

Any questions?