## Prof. Dr. Alfred Toth

## Discrete Subgroups of the semiotic Euclidean group

Mit seiner Dampfmaschine treibt er Hut um Hut aus seinem Hut und stellt sie auf in Ringelreihn wie man es mit Soldaten tut.

Dann grüßt er sie mit seinem Hut der dreimal grüßt mit einem du. Das traute sie vom Kakasie ersetzt er durch das Kakadu.

Er sieht sie nicht und grüßt sie doch er sie mit sich und läuft um sich. Die Hüte inbegriffen sind und deckt den Deckel ab vom Ich.

Hans Arp (1963, p. 83)1

1. In the R<sup>2</sup>-model of the Euclidean plane, the set of all isometries is the Euclidean group  $E_2$  with the composition of transformations as the binary operation. There are four types of isometries: translations, rotations, reflections, and glide reflections. The set of all translations  $T_2$  is the translational subgroup  $T_2$  of  $E_2$ ,  $T_2 < E_2$ . The set of rotations with the origin as a center, and reflections in lines containing the origin, represents the subgroup  $O_2$  of  $E_2$ ,  $O_2 < E_2$ . This is the orthogonal subgroup of the Euclidean group, denoted as  $O_2$ . Every element of  $E_2$  can be represented as a composition of one rotation with the origin as a center or one reflection in a line passing through the origin, and one translation. Thus, every element  $\varepsilon \in E_2$  can be represented as  $\varepsilon = \sigma \tau$ , where  $\sigma \in O_2$  and  $\tau \in T_2$ . From this relationship follows that  $E_2$  is the semidirect product of its subgroups  $O_2$  and  $T_2$ . We see that  $O_2 \cap T_2 = \varepsilon$ , where  $\varepsilon$  is the identity transformation. Hence, every element of  $E_2$  we can decompose in the product of elements of  $O_2$  and  $T_2$  in a unique way (cit. Kozomara 1998)<sup>2</sup>.

The isometries are represented as follows:

- (a) Translation by a vector v as (v, I), where I is the unit 2×2 matrix;
- (b) Rotation counterclockwise, through the angle  $\theta$  about x, as (x xM<sup> $\tau$ </sup>, M), where

 $M = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta - \sin\theta \\ \sin\theta - \cos\theta \end{pmatrix}$ 

<sup>1</sup> Literal (but bumpy) translation: "With his steam engine he pushes / hat and hat out of his hat / and lines them up in a merry-go-round /as one does it then with soldiers. // Then he greets them with his hat / who three times does greet by a thou / The familiar "you" of "cocka-you" / He replaces by a "cocka-thou".// He does not see, but greets them though / he them with himself and runs about himself. / The hats, they are included then / and so he uncovers the lid of the I".

<sup>2</sup> The further definitions are taken partly literally from Armstrong (1988) and Kozomara (1998).

(c) Reflection in a line pm as (2a, N), where the image of p derived by the translation a is the line p' that contains the origin:

$$N = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \psi - \sin \psi \\ \sin \psi - \cos \psi \end{pmatrix}$$

and  $\psi$  is the slope of p;

d) Glide reflection by a vector b, in a line that translated by b contains the origin, is represented as (2a+b, N), with N defined as in (c).

2. That there is a semiotic Euclidean group follows from previous studies (cf. Toth 2002, 2007, pp. 37 ss., 52 ss.; 2008a, pp. 57 ss). In this study, we will restrict ourselves to discrete subgroups of the semiotic Euclidean group. According to the number of independent translations contained in a particular group, there are three classes of discrete subgroups of Euclidean group  $E_2$ . The first is the class of discrete subgroups of  $E_2$  without translations – the symmetry group of rosettes. This class is infinite. The second class contains the groups with a translation subgroup generated by one single translation – the symmetry group of friezes. That class contains 7 non-isomorphic symmetry groups. The third class is the wallpaper groups. Their translation subgroup is generated by two independent translations, and this class contains 17 non-isomorphic groups.

2.1. The semiotic symmetry groups of rosettes

A subgroup D of  $D_{E2}$  is the symmetry group of rosettes if it does not contain translations. The elements of a rosette group are the symmetries of a rosette. The rotational subgroup of a rosette group R is generated by a rotation  $R = \langle M_{\theta} \rangle$ ,  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi]$ . In the case that  $O_R$ contains only direct transformations, the unique possibility is  $R = \langle M_{[(2\pi/m]}) \rangle$ . Such a rosette group is isomorphic to a cyclic group  $C_m$ .

In order to show the different symmetries, I use the framework of my "General Sign Grammar" (Toth 2008b) on the one side and the theory of semiotic transpositions (Toth 2008a, pp. 159 ss.) on the other side. Here are some examples for semiotic rosettes:



1 =	$\mathbf{M} \equiv \mathbf{M}^{""}$	$5 = I \equiv M$ "
2 =	$\mathcal{O} \equiv \mathcal{I}" \equiv \mathcal{O}"" \equiv \mathcal{I}' \equiv \mathcal{I}"""$	$6 = O''' \equiv O''''$
3 =	$\mathbf{M'} \equiv \mathbf{O'''''}$	$7 = M$ "" $\equiv O$ ""
4 =	I'≡O"	

Let  $O_R$  contain n indirect transformations and a rotation M of the order m, so the number of rotations in  $O_R$  is m. Hence, for an indirect transformation S, the compositions SM, SM<sup>2</sup>, ..., SM<sup>m</sup> are mutually different indirect transformations from  $O_R$ , so  $m \le n$ . On the other hand, compositions SM, SM<sup>2</sup>, ..., SM<sup>m</sup> are mutually different direct transformations from  $O_R$ , and we have  $n \le m$ . Therefore, m = n. We see that all indirect transformations from R have the form  $(0, M_{[l(2\pi/m]}) (0, S))$ , where  $l \in N$  and S is an indirect transformation from  $O_R$ . Hence, R  $= <(0, M_{[(2\pi)/m}), (0, S)>$ . Such a group R is isomorphic to a dihedral group  $D_m$ , and we will illustrate it again by the following semiotic symmetries:



## 2.2. The semiotic symmetry group of friezes

A subgroup B of  $D_{E2}$  is the symmetry group of friezes if its translational subgroup is generated by one translation. If the translation by a vector a generates  $T_B$  then the lattice is the set of points  $R = \{na \mid n \in Z\}$ . By  $\theta$  will be denoted the matrix of rotation about the origin through the angle  $\theta$ , and by  $S_{\varphi}$  the reflection in the line passing through the origin of slope  $\varphi/2$ . Since in the classification of the frieze groups, the vector a will be considered as collinear to the x-axis and since every point of the lattice belongs to the x-axis, we find that the point group of every frieze group B must leave the x-axis invariant, and the only possible transformations contained in the orthogonal group  $O_B$  are: I, -I, S<sub>0</sub>, and S<sub>[(\pi/2]</sub>. By choosing possible orthogonal groups for the frieze groups, respecting the condition that it must leave the lattice invariant, there are 7 non-isomorphic frieze groups. With regard to  $O_B$ , we have the following possibilities:





7 = I''''

b) The other possibility is that the frieze group does not contain  $S_0$ ,  $(0, S_0) \notin B$ . Then  $\alpha \notin Z$ . Since  $(\alpha_a, S_0)^2 = (2\alpha, a, I)$ , we have that  $\alpha = n + \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $n \in Z$ . So,  $S_0$  is realized as a glide reflection:  $B = T_B \cup T_B (\frac{1}{2} a, S_0)$ .



4.  $O_B = \langle S_{[\pi/2]} \rangle \{I, S_{[\pi/2]}\}$ . The  $S_{[\pi/2]}$  in B must be realized as a reflection. In B there is no translation by a vector normal to x-axis. Hence:  $B = T_B \cup T_B(0, S_{[\pi/2]})$ 



5.  $O_B = \langle S_0, S_{|\pi/2|} \rangle \{I, -I, S_0, S_{|\pi/2|}\}$ . There are two possibilities:

a)  $S_0$  is realized as a reflection:  $B = T_B \cup T_B(0, -I) \cup T_B(0, S_0) \cup T_B(0, S_{|\pi/2|})$ 



 $1 = M \equiv M'$   $6 = O'''' \equiv O''''$ 
 $2 = O \equiv O' \equiv O'' \equiv O'''$  7 = I'''' 

 3 = I 8 = I' 

  $4 = M'' \equiv M''' \equiv M'''' = M'''''$  9 = I''' 

 5 = I'' 10 = I'''''' 

b)  $S_0$  is not realized as a reflection. Then,  $S_0$  in B is realized as  $((n + \frac{1}{2})a, S_0)$  and we have that -I is realized as  $((n + \frac{1}{2})a, S_0)(0, S_{\pi/2}) = ((n + \frac{1}{2})a, -I)$ . B =  $T_B \cup T_B(0, -I) \cup T_B(\frac{1}{2}a, S_0) \cup T_B(0, S_{|\pi/2})$ 



The above types of symmetry correspond to Bense's sign operation of "adjunction" (Bense 1971, p. 52; Toth 2008b, pp. 20 ss.). In the next chapter, we will find several groups that correspond also to semiotic "iteration" and superization" (Bense 1971, pp. 54 ss.; Toth 2008b, pp. 20 ss.)

2.3. The semiotic wallpaper groups

A subgroup K of  $D_{E2}$  is the wallpaper group if its transitional subgroup is generated by two translations. The lattice consists of points ma + nb, m, n  $\in$  Z, where translations by independent vectors a and b generate  $T_{K}$ . Without loss of generality, let:

1.  $|\mathbf{a}| \le |\mathbf{b}|$  (otherwise  $\mathbf{a} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{b}$ ) 2.  $|\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}| \le |\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}|$  (otherwise  $\mathbf{a} \rightarrow -\mathbf{b}$ )

Thus, we have the following possible relations between |a|, |b|, |a - b|, |a + b|:

|a| < |b| < |a - b| < |a + b| (oblique lattice)</li>
 |a| < |b| < |a - b| = |a + b| (rectangular lattice)</li>
 |a| < |b| = |a - b| < |a + b| (centered rectangular lattice)</li>
 |a| = |b| < |a - b| < |a + b| (centered rectangular lattice)</li>
 |a| = |b| < |a - b| < |a + b| (centered rectangular lattice)</li>
 |a| = |b| < |a - b| = |a + b| (square lattice)</li>

5.  $|\mathbf{a}| = |\mathbf{b}| = |\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}| < |\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}|$  (hexagonal lattice)

There are only four non-trivial rotations through the angles  $[2\pi/6]$ ,  $[2\pi/4]$ ,  $[2\pi/3]$ ,  $[2\pi/2]$ , i.e. the rotations of the order 6, 4, 3, 2, respectively. Every orthogonal group of a wallpaper group is finite, because the wallpaper group is discrete, so it contains the rotations through the angles  $[2\pi/k]$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ . Since the vectors a and b that generate  $T_K$  are independent, they represent the basis of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . If we combine each lattice with an orthogonal group, there are 17 non-isomorphic wallpaper groups. For every  $T_K$  and its orthogonal group  $O_K$ , the wallpaper group will be  $T_K \cup X_i \in O_K$  ( $\tau$ , X), where  $\tau \in T_K$  and ( $\tau$ , X<sub>i</sub>) represents the realization of  $X_i$ from  $O_K$  in K.

1. As for the oblique lattice, R, |a| < |b| < |a - b| < |a + b|, the only element of  $O_D$  that preserves R is the rotation through  $\varphi$  about the origin, so  $O_K \subset \{\pm I\}$ .

1.1. If the only rotation in K is the identity I, we get the simplest case: the wallpaper group generated by translations,  $K = \{(ma + nb, I) \mid m, n \in Z\}$ .



This symmetry group corresponds to Bense's sign-operation of superization (cf. Bense 1971, pp. 53 ss.) with at the same time rising and falling cascades (cf. Toth 2008b, pp. 62 ss.).

1.2.  $O_K$  contains –I. We get  $K = T_K \{(0, I), (0, -I)\}$ , that is the union of two neighboring classes of  $T_K$ . The elements of K, not belonging to  $T_K$ , are (ma + nb, I) (0, -I) = (ma + nb, I), m, n  $\in \mathbb{Z}$ , which means that the elements are translations and half-turns about the points  $(\frac{1}{2}a + \frac{1}{2}nb)$ .



<sup>2.</sup> |a| < |b| < |a - b| = |a + b|

Here, except the coincidence, we have the transformations –I,  $S_{0}$  and  $S_{\pi}$  preserving the lattice.

2.1. For  $O_K = \{I, S_0\}$  there are two possibilities.

2.1.1.  $S_0$  is realized in K as a reflection (0,  $S_0$ ).  $K = T_K \cup T_K (S_0)$ .



$8 = (I''') \leftrightarrow (M \to O)$
$9 = (I''') \leftrightarrow (M' \rightarrow O')$
$10 = (I''') \leftrightarrow (M'' \rightarrow O'')$
11 = M"
$12 = O''' \equiv O'''$
$13 = M$ <sup>***</sup> $\equiv M$ <sup>****</sup>
14 = O"""

2.1.2.  $S_0$  is realized in K as a glide reflection, so K contains (0,  $S_0$ ). This is the glide reflection (<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>a,  $S_0$ ).



2.1.3.  $O_K$  is {I, -I, S<sub>0</sub>, S<sub> $\pi$ </sub>}. If S<sub>0</sub> and S<sub> $\pi$ </sub> are realized as reflections,  $K = T_K \cup X \in O_K$  (O, X).



$1 = O \equiv O'$	6 = I"
$2 = M \equiv M' \equiv M'' \equiv O'''$	7 = I""
$3 = O'' \equiv O'''' \equiv M''' \equiv O''''$	8 = I'
$4 = M''' \equiv M''''$	9 = I'''
5 = I	10 = I""

2.1.4. The only element of orthogonal group realized as a reflection is  $(0, S_{\pi})$ . The transformation –I from  $O_K$  is realized as  $(^{1}/_{2}, S_0)$   $(0, S_{\pi}) = (^{1}/_{2} a, -I)$ .  $K = T_K \cup T_K (0, S_0) \cup T_K (0, S_{\pi}) \cup T_K (^{1}/_{2} a, -I)$ .



2.1.5. The third case occurs when K does not contain the reflections. Thus,  $S_0$  is realized as  $(\frac{1}{2} a, S_0)$ , and  $S_{\pi}$  as  $(\frac{1}{2} b, S_{\pi})$ . –I is realized as  $(\frac{1}{2} a, S_0)$  ( $\frac{1}{2} b, S_{\pi}$ ) = ( $\frac{1}{2} (a - b)$ , -I). K = T<sub>K</sub>  $\cup$  T<sub>K</sub> ( $\frac{1}{2} a, S_0$ )  $\cup$  T<sub>K</sub> ( $\frac{1}{2} b, S_{\pi}$ )  $\cup$  T<sub>K</sub> ( $\frac{1}{2} (a - b)$ , -I).



$$1 = M \qquad 6 = I' \leftrightarrow (M \rightarrow O)$$
  

$$2 = O \equiv I''' \equiv M''' \qquad 7 = (M''' \rightarrow O''') \leftrightarrow (M'' \rightarrow O'')$$
  

$$3 = O''' \qquad 8 = O'$$
  

$$4 = I \equiv O''' \qquad 9 = M' \equiv I''$$
  

$$5 = M''' \equiv I''''$$

3. 
$$|a| < |b| = |a - b| < |a + b|$$

The elements of  $O_K$  are I, -I,  $S_0$ ,  $S_{\pi}$ . In order to avoid isomorphic groups, we take that K, where the reflections from  $O_K$  are realized as both reflections and glide reflections.

3.1. In the case that  $O_K = \{I, S_0\}$ ,  $S_0$  is realized as a reflection (2(b - a),  $S_0$ ), and glide reflection as  $(\frac{1}{2}(2(b - a) + a/2, S_0) = (b, S_0)$ , we have  $K = T_K \cup T_K$  (b,  $S_0$ ).



$$1 = M$$
 $6 = M"$  $11 = M"" \leftrightarrow (M' \rightarrow I')$  $2 = O \equiv O'$  $7 = O" \equiv O"'$  $12 = O"" \equiv O""'$  $3 = I$  $8 = I" \leftrightarrow (M \rightarrow O)$  $13 = I""'$  $4 = M"$  $9 = M"'$  $14 = M"'''$  $5 = I"$  $10 = I"' \leftrightarrow (O' \leftrightarrow M')$  $15 = I"'''$ 

$$16 = M^{\text{min}} \leftrightarrow (M^{\text{min}} \rightarrow I^{\text{min}})$$
  

$$17 = O^{\text{min}} \equiv O^{\text{min}}$$
  

$$18 = I^{\text{min}} \leftrightarrow (M^{\text{min}} \rightarrow O^{\text{min}})$$
  

$$19 = M^{\text{min}}$$
  

$$20 = I^{\text{min}} \leftrightarrow (O^{\text{min}} \rightarrow M^{\text{min}})$$

3.2. In the case that  $O_K = \{I, -I, S_0, S_\pi\}$ , we have  $K = T_K \cup T_K$  (b,  $S_0$ )  $\cup T_K$  (a,  $S_\pi$ ).



1 = O	$5 = I'' \equiv I'''$
$2 = M \equiv M$ "	6 = O'
$3 = I \equiv I'$	$7 = M' \equiv M'''$
4 = O"	8 = O'''

4. |a| = |b| < |a - b| = |a + b|

4.1. In the case  $O_K = \langle M_{[\pi/2]} \rangle$ , we have  $K = T_K \cup T_K (0, M_{\pi/2}) \cup T_K (0, M_{\pi}) \cup T_K (0, M_{\pi/2})$ .



1 = I	5 = O'	9 = I"
2 = O	6 = I'	10 = O'''
$3 = M \leftrightarrow (O'' \rightarrow M'')$	$7 = M" \leftrightarrow (M' \rightarrow O')$	$11 = M"" \leftrightarrow (M" \leftrightarrow O")$
$4 = M' \leftrightarrow (M \to O)$	8 = O"	12 = I'''

4.2. In the case  $S_0 \in O_K$ ,  $O_K = \{I, M_{[\pi/2]}, -I, M_{[3\pi/2]}, S_0, S_{[\pi/2]}, S_{\pi}, S_{[[\pi/2]]}\}$ 

4.2.1.  $S_0$  is realized as a reflection



4.2.2.  $S_0$  is not realized as a reflection. Let  $S_0$  be realized as  $(\alpha a + \beta b, S_0)$ , so  $(\alpha a + \beta b, S_0)^2 = (2\alpha, S_0) \in K$ .



$$\begin{array}{ll} 6 = I'' & 16 = O'''''' \\ 7 = O'' & 17 = I'''''' \\ 8 = M'' \leftrightarrow (O \rightarrow M) \equiv M''' & 18 = O'''' \\ 9 = I''' & 19 = M'''' \leftrightarrow (M''''' \rightarrow O''''') \\ 10 = O''' & 20 = I''''' \end{array}$$

5. |a| = |b| = |a - b| < |a + b|. Since  $S_0 M_{[k\pi/3]} = S_{[k\pi/3]}$ , and all of them are realized as reflections in K.

5.1.  $O_K$  is generated by  $M_{[\pi/3]}$ . Here  $K = T_K \cup_{k=1,\dots5} (0, M_{[k\pi/3]})$ .



1 = O	8 = O"
$2 = M \equiv O'$	9 = M''
3 = M'	10 = I''''
$4 = I \leftrightarrow (M^{"""} \rightarrow I^{"""})$	11 = I'''
$5 = I' \leftrightarrow (I'' \rightarrow O'')$	12 = M""
6 = M''''	$13 = \text{O}^{***} \equiv \text{M}^{***}$
7 = O"""	14 = O'''

$$1 = O'$$
 $15 = O^{mm}$ 
 $2 = M' \equiv M$ 
 $16 = M^{mm} \equiv M^{mm}$ 
 $3 = O \equiv O^{mmm}$ 
 $17 = I^{mmm}$ 
 $4 = M^{mmm}$ 
 $18 = O^{mmm} \equiv O^{mm}$ 
 $5 = I'$ 
 $19 = I^{mmm}$ 
 $6 = I$ 
 $20 = M^{mm}$ 
 $7 = I^{mmmm}$ 
 $21 = I^{mmm}$ 
 $8 = M^{mmmm} \equiv O^{mmm}$ 
 $23 = O^{mm} \equiv O^{mmm}$ 
 $9 = O^{mmmm} \Rightarrow (I^{mmmm} \rightarrow M^{mmmm})$ 
 $24 = I^{mm} \Leftrightarrow (I^{mmm} \rightarrow M^{mmm})$ 
 $11 = M^{mmmm} \equiv M^{mmmm}$ 
 $25 = M^{m} \equiv M^{mm}$ 
 $12 = O^{mmmm}$ 
 $26 = I^{mm}$ 
 $13 = O^{mmmm}$ 
 $27 = O^{mmmm}$ 
 $14 = I^{mmmm} \leftrightarrow (I^{mmm} \rightarrow O^{mmm})$ 
 $28 = I^{m} \leftrightarrow (I' \rightarrow O')$ 



5.2. 
$$O_K = \langle M_{[\pi/3]}, S_0 \rangle, K = T_K \cup_{k=1,\dots,5} (0, S_{[k\pi/3]})$$

5.3.  $O_K$  is generated by  $M_{[2\pi/3]}$ .  $K = T_K \cup_{k=1,...,3} (0, M_{[2k\pi/3]})$ .



 $9 = \text{O'''} \leftrightarrow (\text{O''} \rightarrow \text{I''})$  $1=\mathrm{M"}$  $10 = \mathbf{I}^{""} \equiv \mathbf{I}^{""} \leftrightarrow (\mathbf{I}^{"""} \rightarrow \mathbf{M}^{"""})$ 2 = O" 11 = O""  $3 = I'' \equiv I \equiv I$ 12 = M"" 4 = O $13 = (\mathbf{M}^{"""} \rightarrow \mathbf{I}^{"""}) \cap ((\mathbf{I}^{""} \rightarrow \mathbf{M}^{"""}) \cap (\mathbf{I}^{""} \equiv \mathbf{I}^{"""}))$ 5 = M6 = O' 14 = M"" 15 = O"" 7 = M' $8 = M''' \leftrightarrow (I' \rightarrow M')$ 

5.4. When  $O_K$  is generated by  $M_K [2\pi/3]$  and  $S_0: K = T_K \cup_{k=1,\dots,3} (0, M_{[2k\pi/3]}) \cup_{k=1,\dots,3} (0, S_{[2k\pi/3]})$ 



1 = M

 $4 = I \leftrightarrow (M' \rightarrow I') \qquad 11 = M'''$   $5 = I'''' \leftrightarrow (I''' \rightarrow M'''') \qquad 12 = O''' \equiv O''''$   $6 = M' \qquad 13 = M'''''$  $7 = O' \equiv O''$ 

5.5.  $O_{K} = \langle M_{[2\pi/3]}, S_{[\pi/3]} \rangle$ .  $K = T_{K} \cup (0, M_{-[2\pi/3]}) \cup T_{K} (0, M_{-[2\pi/3]}) \cup T_{K} (0, S_{[\pi/3]}) \cup T_{K} (0, S_{[\pi/3]}) \cup T_{K} (0, S_{\pi/3})$ .



1 = O	$7 = M' \equiv M'''$
2 = M	8 = O'''
$3 = I \equiv M$ " $\equiv I$	$9 = I''' \equiv I'''' \equiv I''''$
4 = O"	10 = M''''
$5 = I'' \equiv O''''$	11 = O""
6 =O'	12 = M"""

Thus, not only all the rosette and the friezes groups, but also all 17 different cases of the wallpaper group can be found in semiotic structures generated by aid of the framework of "General Sign Grammar" (Toth 2008b), i.e. 2 for the oblique, 6 for rectangular, 7 for centered, 11 for square, and 11 for hexagonal lattices. Thus, further investigations in semiotic group and crystallography theory will be proven to be extremely useful.

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