# Geometry of involutions in ranked groups 

Joshua Wiscons

California State University, Sacramento

# Panglobal Algebra and Logic Seminar University of Colorado, Boulder 

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## $\mathrm{SO}_{3}(\mathbb{R})$ vs $\mathrm{PGL}_{2}(\mathbb{C})$

An inner-geometric dividing line

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What if we consider the same (group theoretic) geometry as before?

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## Properties of $C$ in $\mathrm{PGL}_{2}(\mathbb{C})$

1. $C$ is TI

- why: no nontrivial element has more than two fixed points

2. $C$ is quasi-self-normalizing

- again $\left[N_{G}(C): C\right]=2$
- why: $g$ normalizes $C_{i} \Longleftrightarrow(g$ fixes $x$ and $y$ OR $g$ swaps $x$ and $y)$

3. The conjugates of $C$ generically cover $G: \bigcup_{g \in G-N_{G}(C)} C^{g}$ is generic in $G$

- why: generic $g \in G$ fix two points (unipotent elements are missed)


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- The action of $\mathrm{PGL}_{2}(\mathbb{C})$ on the completed plane is in fact isomorphic to the one obtained from projectivizing the adjoint representation.
- The geometries can more-or-less be reconstructed from the properties of the subgroup C. This is the main point we want to explore.

[^1]
## $\mathrm{SO}_{3}(\mathbb{R})$ vs $\mathrm{PGL}_{2}(\mathbb{C})$

A model-theoretic dividing line

## Groups of finite Morley rank (fMr)



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## The broader context



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## Algebraicity Conjecture



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## All groups

Simple groups of fMr


## Algebraicity Conjecture



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Algebraicity Conjecture: the gap, $\downarrow$, does not exist.

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- In general, the less 2-torsion a group has, the harder it becomes to analyze by "standard/generic" methods.


# Geometry of involutions in quasi-Frobenius groups 

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## Towards the main result

Both $\mathrm{SO}_{3}(\mathbb{R})$ and $\mathrm{PGL}_{2}(\mathbb{C})$ satisfy all of the group-theoretic conditions in our Global Hypotheses (as well as $\left[N_{G}(C): C\right]=2$ ). However, there is a difference:

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## The main result and consequences

## The Geometric Theorem (Deloro-W)

Let $G$ be a connected group of $f M r$ with $0<m_{2}(G)<\infty$. Suppose $G$ is quasi-Frobenius with respect to $C<G$.

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## Corollary (Borovik-Burdges)

If $G \leq \mathrm{GL}_{n}(K)$ is simple, definable, but not Zariski closed for $K$ of $f M r$ in characteristic 0 , then $G$ has no involutions.

## Proof sketch

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Assume the conjugates of $C$ do contain all SR elements of $G$.
Step 1: $\left[N_{G}(C): C\right]$ is even (so $\left[N_{G}(C): C\right]=2$ with all consequences)

## Proof sketch

## The Geometric Theorem (Deloro-W)

Let $G$ be a connected group of $f M r$ with $0<m_{2}(G)<\infty$. Suppose $G$ is quasi-Frobenius with respect to $C<G$. Then the conjugates of $C$ do not contain all SR elements of G.

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That it is genuine hinges on the conjugates of $C$ genuinely covering $G$.

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## Final thoughts

## Reflections

## The Geometric Theorem (Deloro-W)

Let $G$ be a connected group of fMr with $0<m_{2}(G)<\infty$. Suppose $G$ is quasi-Frobenius with respect to $C<G$. Then the conjugates of $C$ do not contain all SR elements of $G$.

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- To be realistic, we need to assume $G$ is not honestly Frobenius


## Recognition results

## Theorem (Zamour)

Let $G$ be a connected group of $f M r$ with $0<m_{2}(G)<\infty$. Suppose $G$ is a nonsolvable quasi-Frobenius group with respect to $C<G$. If $C$ is solvable and $\left[N_{G}(C): C\right]=2$, then either $C$ is a maximal connected solvable of $G$ or $G \cong \mathrm{PGL}_{2}(K)$.

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- So what might this be working towards. . .


## The Conjecture

## $A_{1}$-Conjecture

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Moreover, in a suitable 'dimensional' setting (generalizing the fMr and o-minimal contexts), one still finds nice recognition of $G$, including now $\mathrm{PGL}_{2}(\mathrm{~K}), \mathrm{SO}_{3}(\mathcal{R})$, and other related groups.

## Thank You


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