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# Head to tail compositions

Oleg Viro

November 27, 2014

# Plane Isometries

**Theorem.** *Any isometry of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is a composition of  $\leq 3$  reflections in lines.*

# Plane Isometries

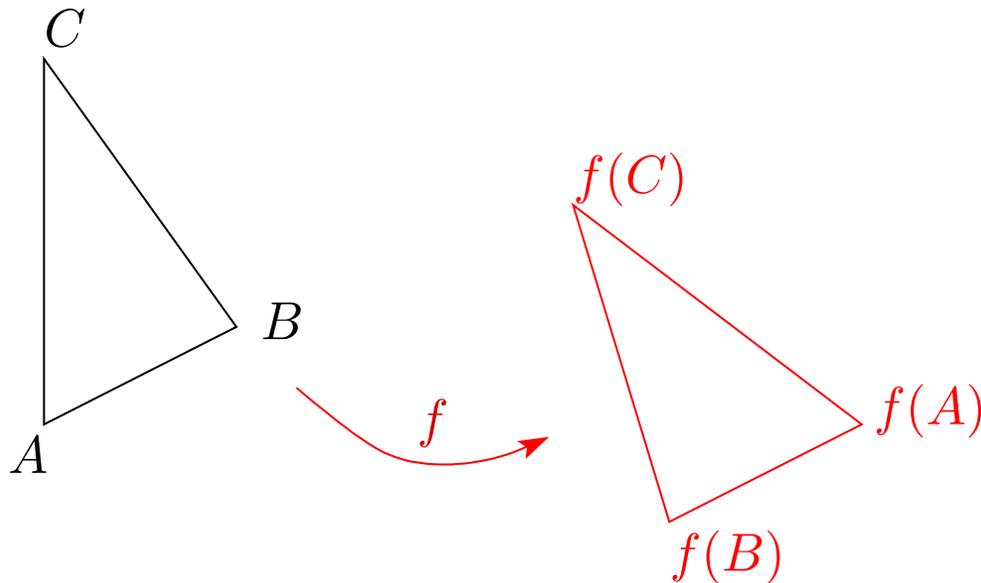
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**Lemma.** *A plane isometry is determined by its restriction to any three non-collinear points.  $\square$*

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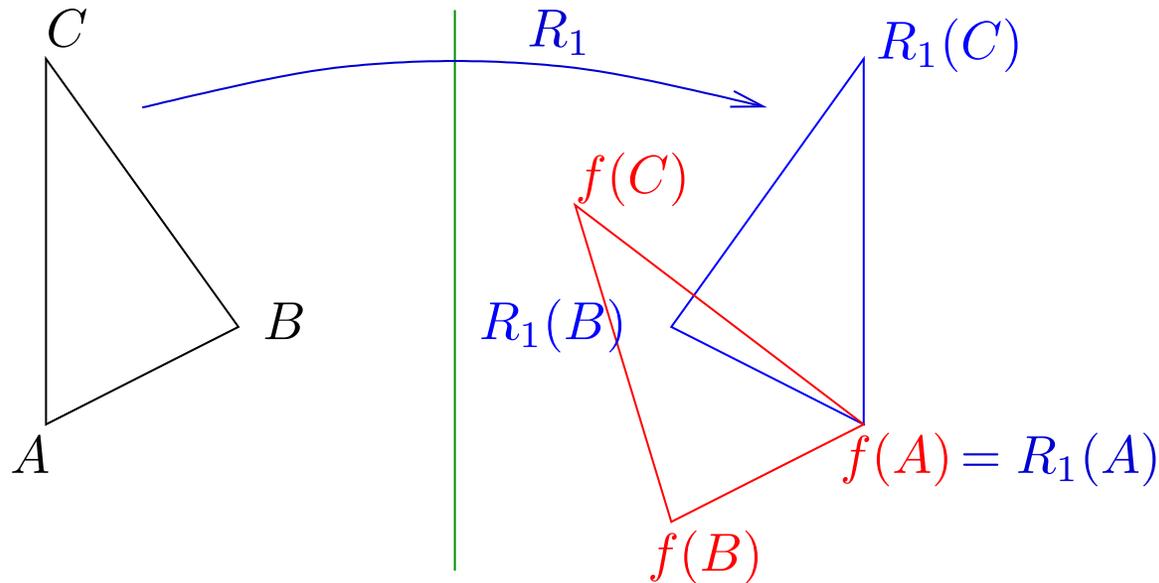
**Proof of Theorem.** Given an isometry:



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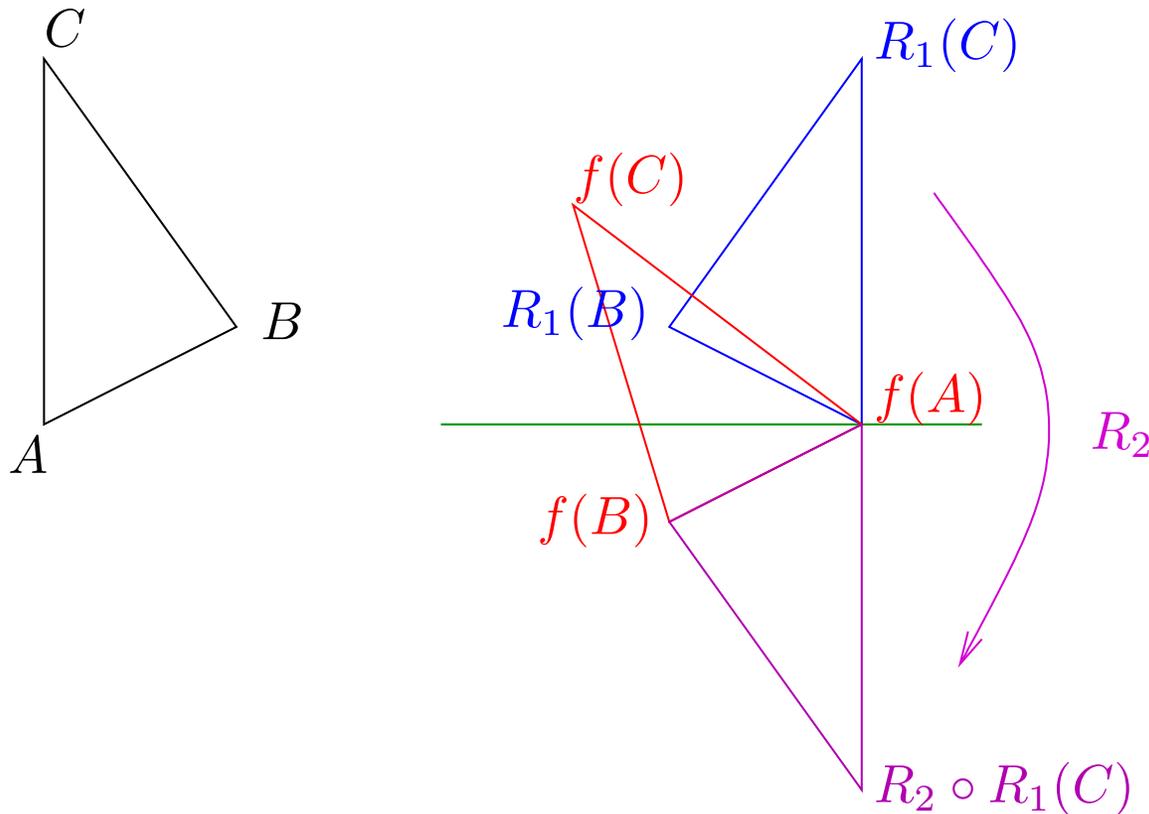
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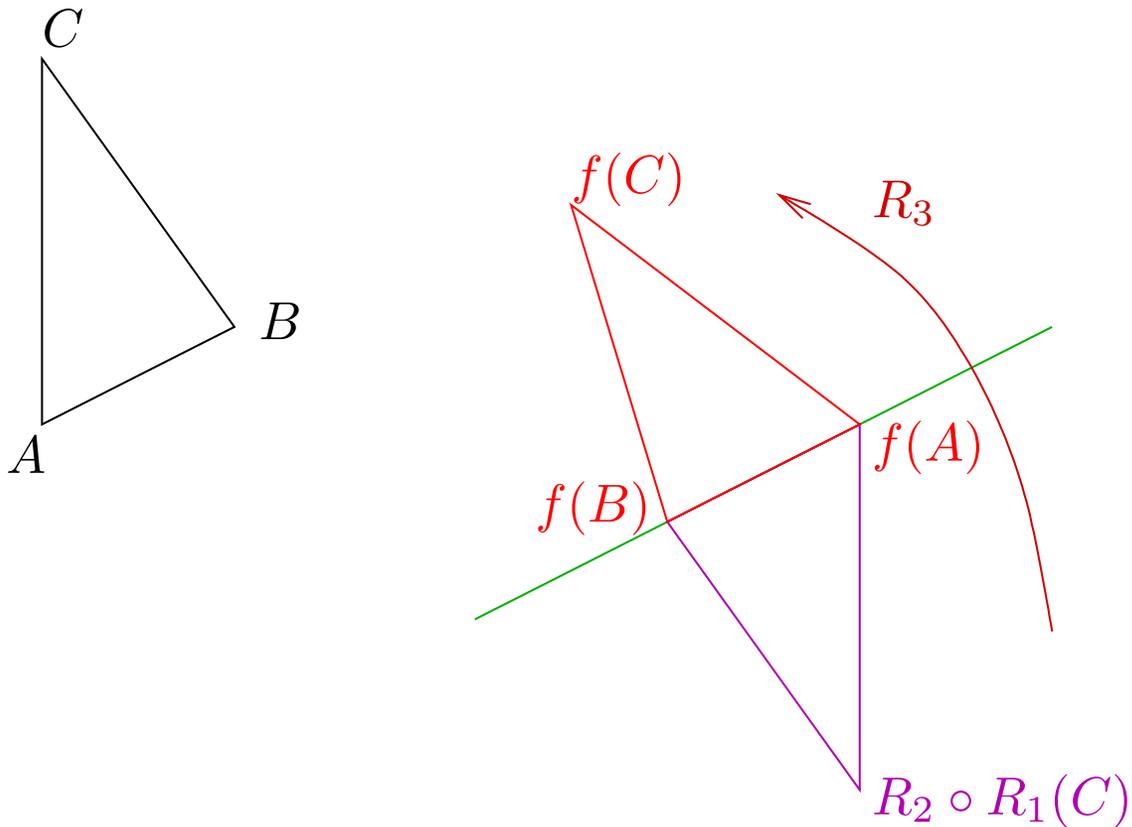
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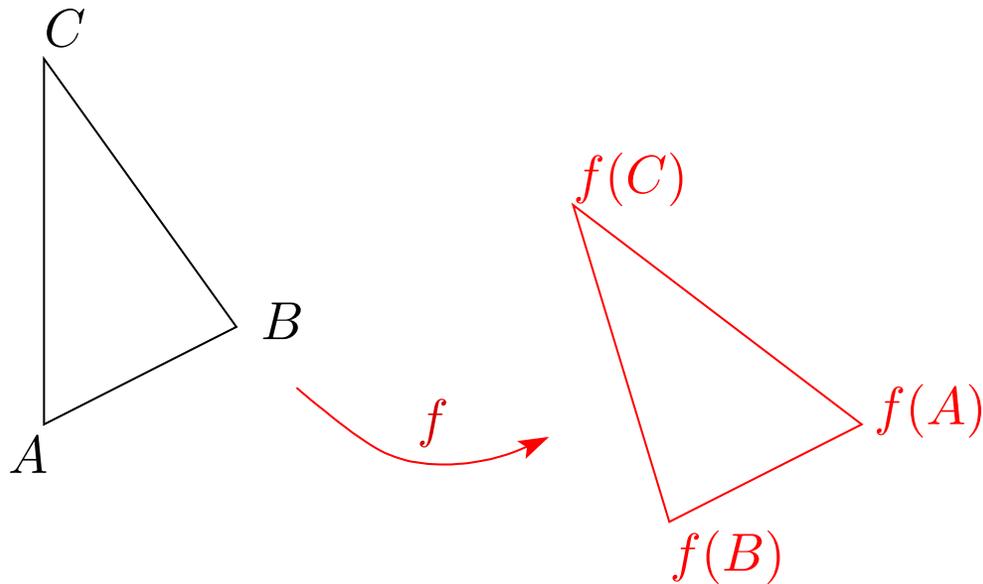
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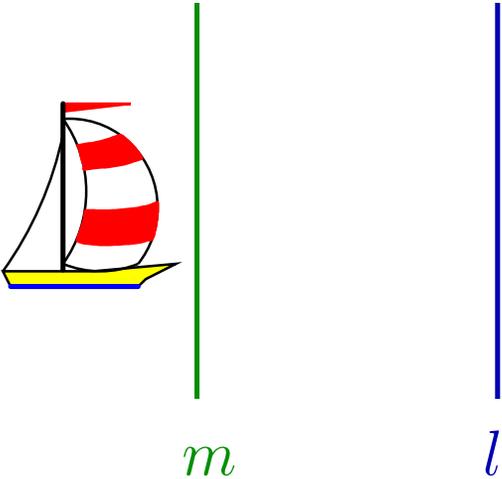
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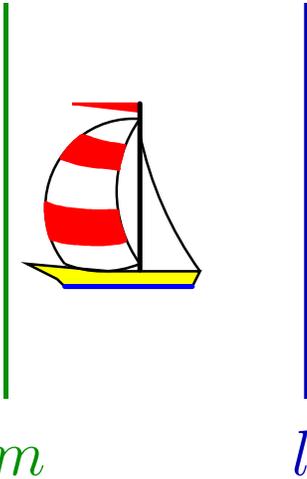


We are done.  $\square$

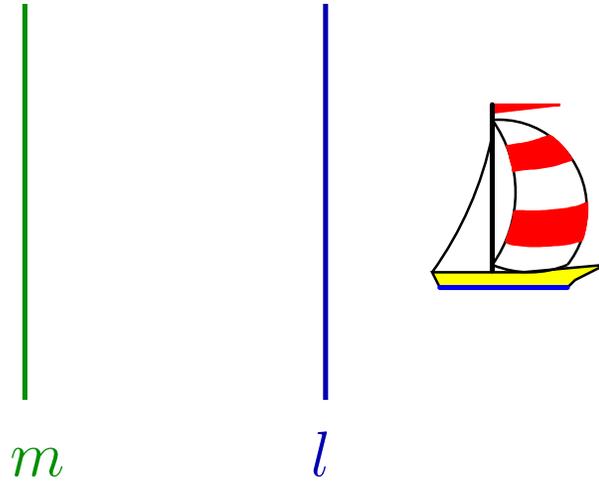
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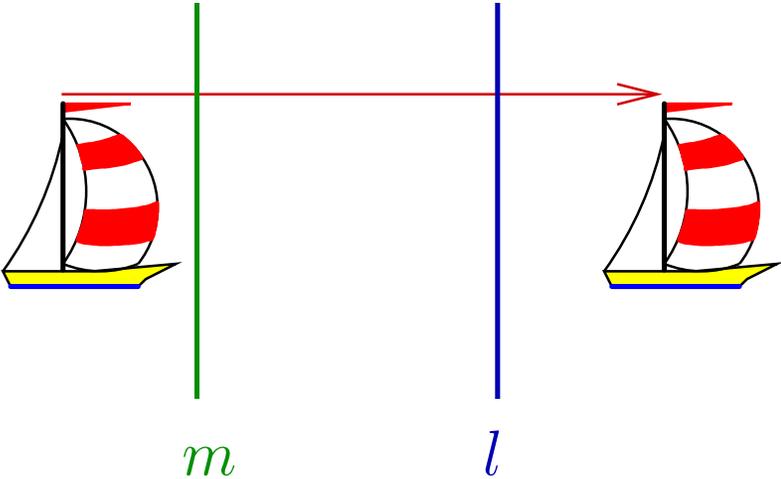
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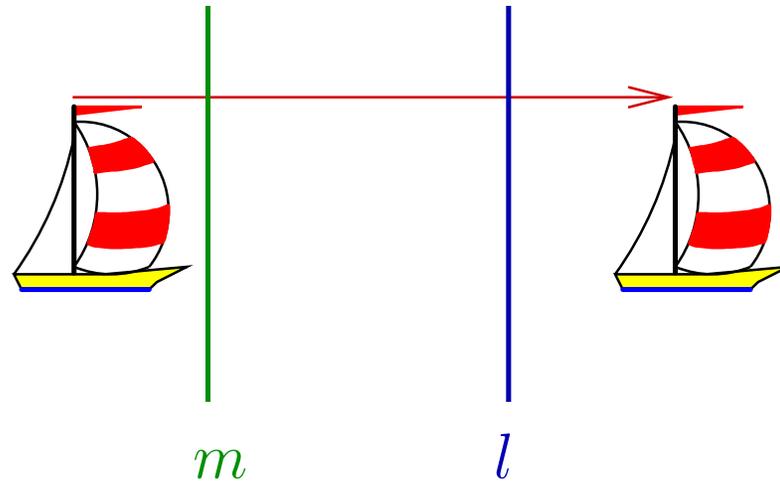


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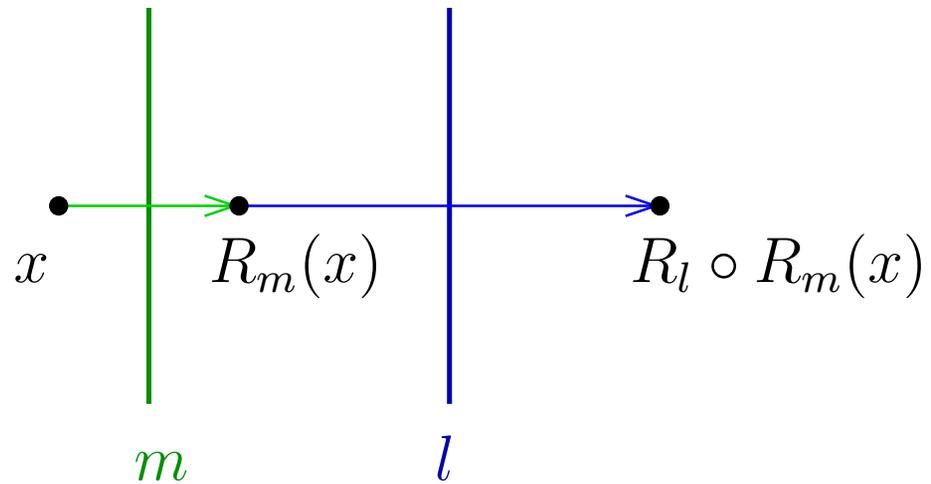
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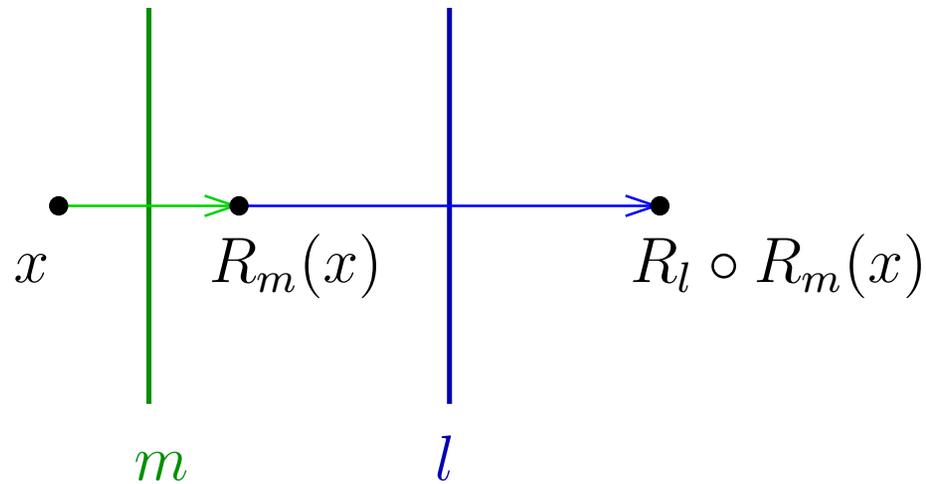
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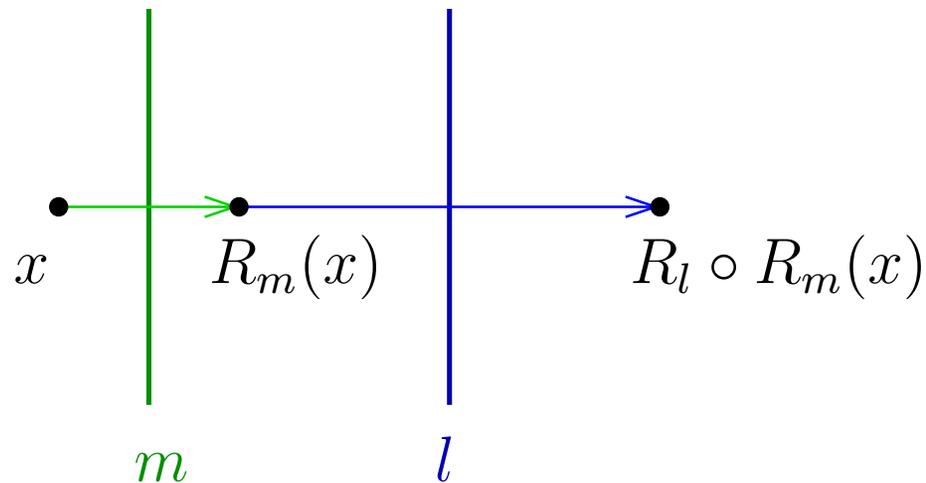
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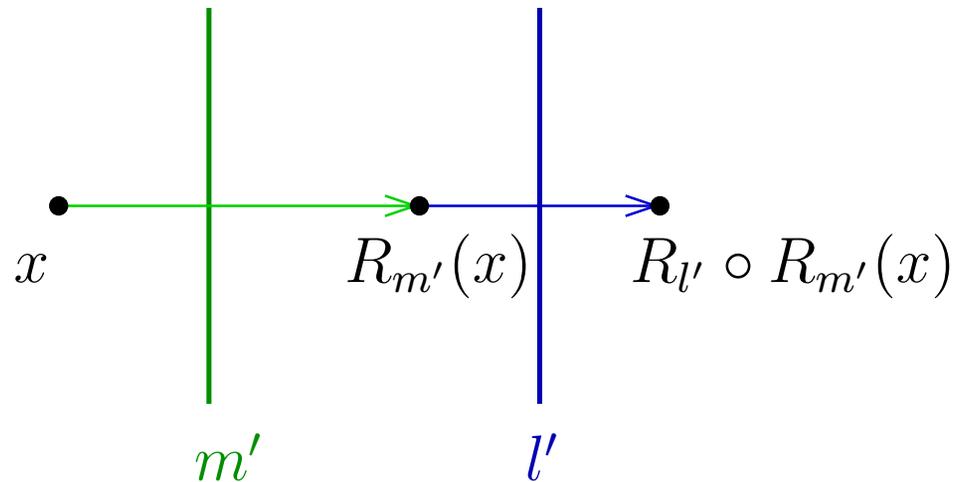
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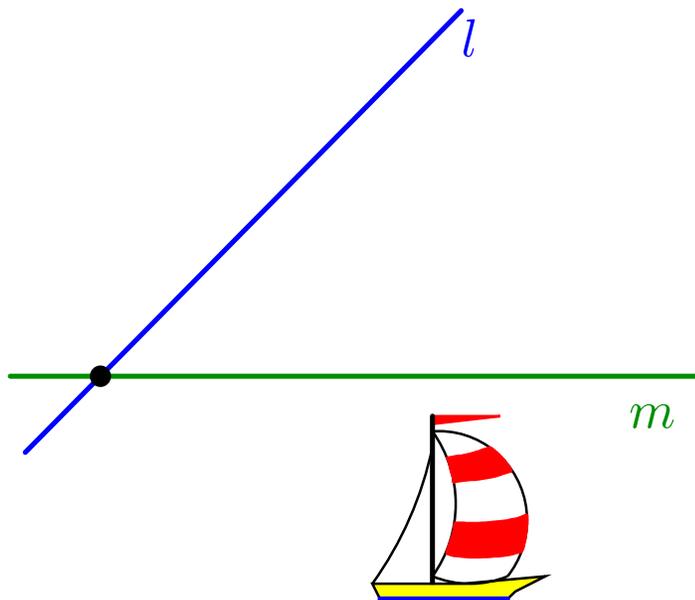


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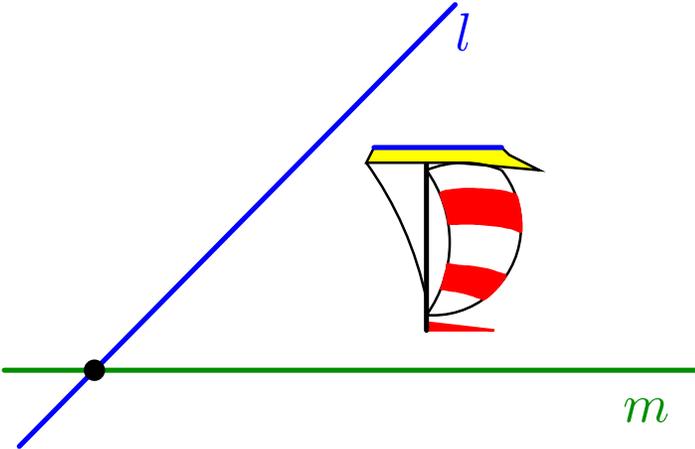
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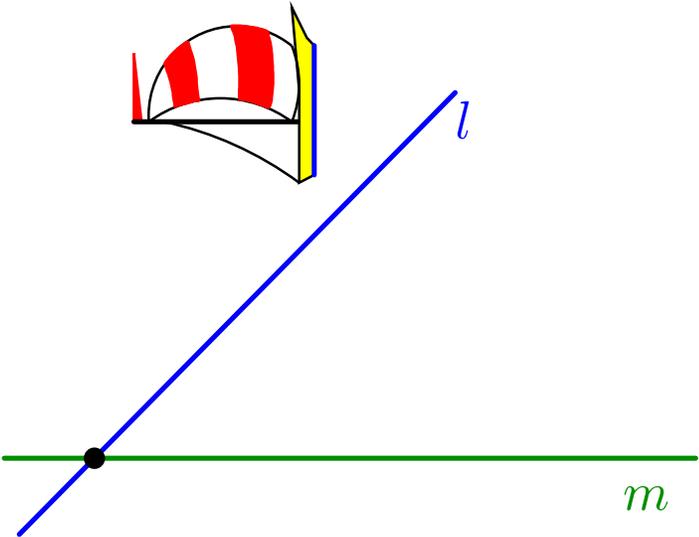
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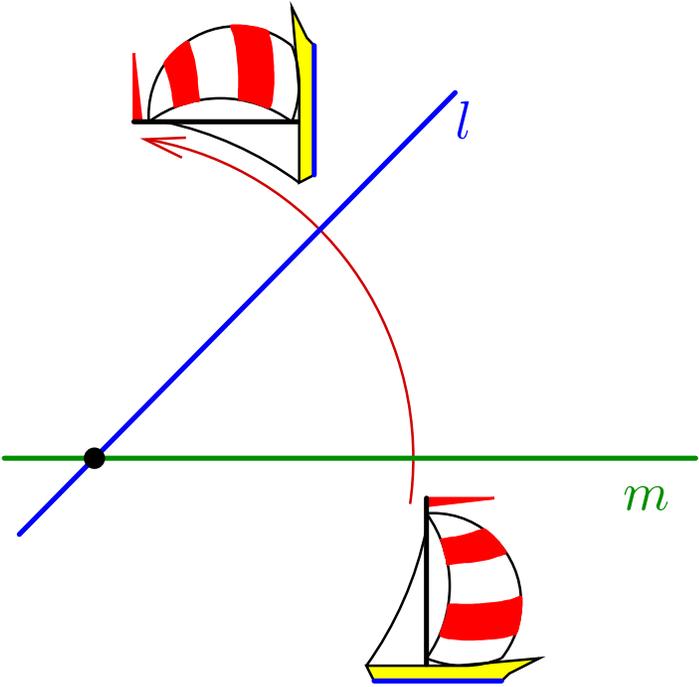
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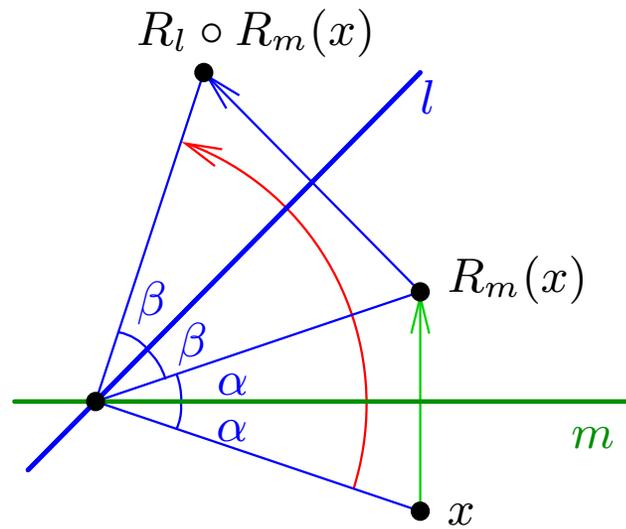


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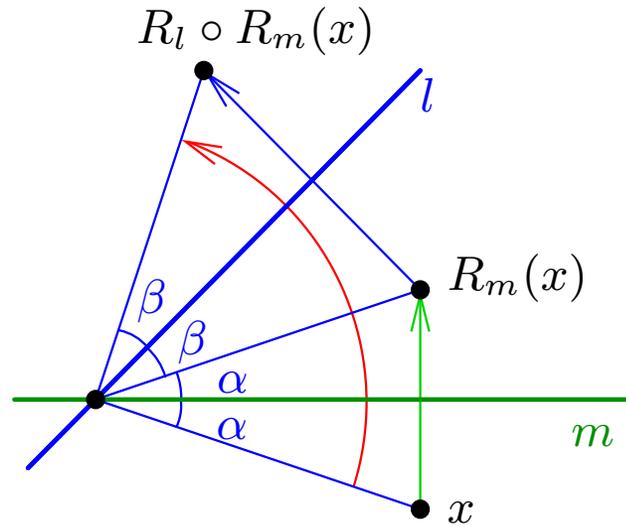
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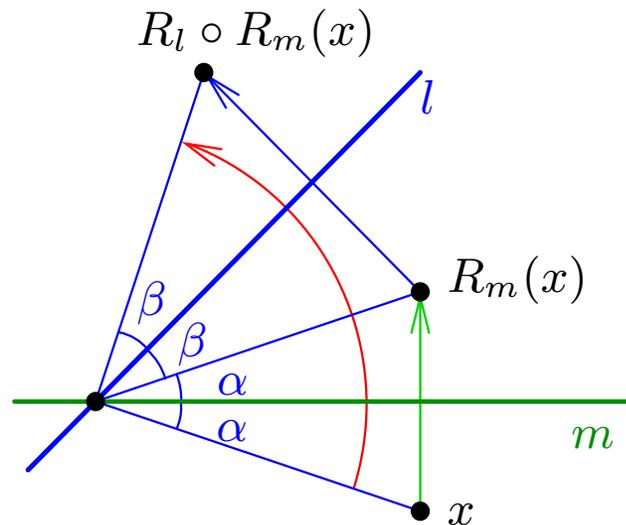
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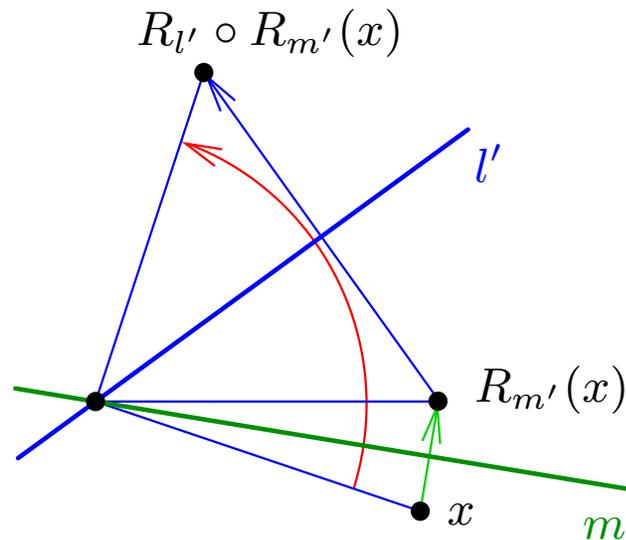
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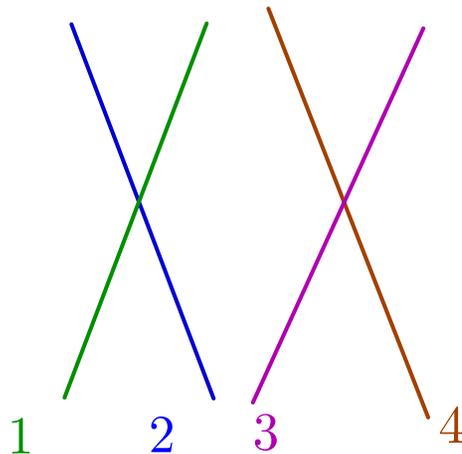
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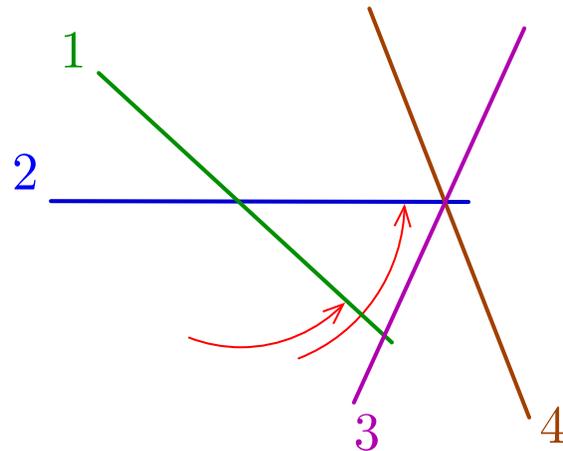


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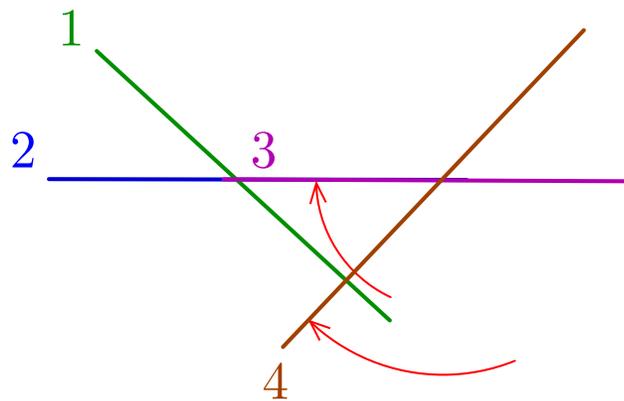


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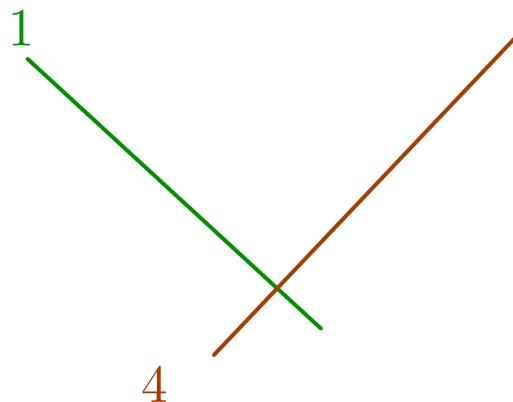


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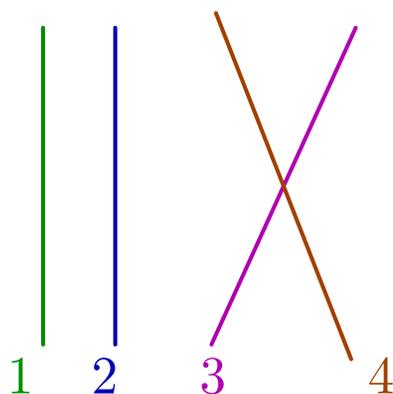
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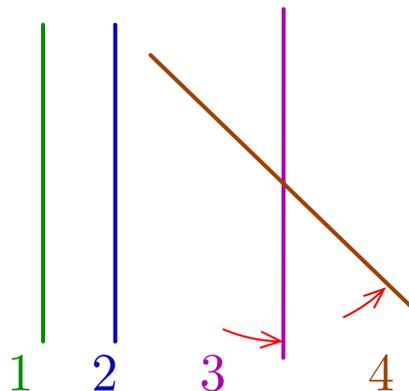


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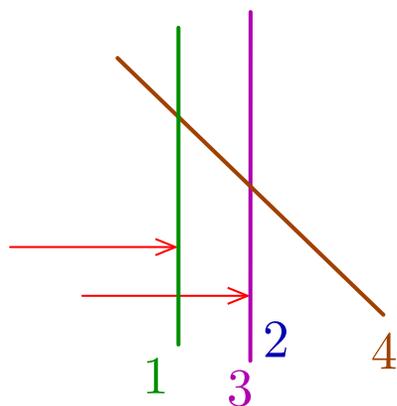


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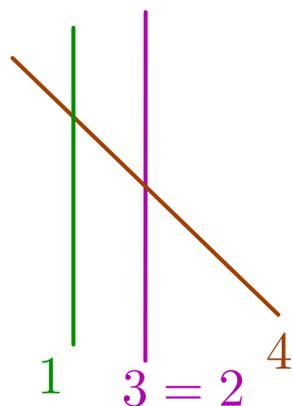


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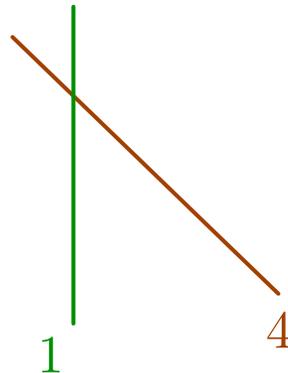


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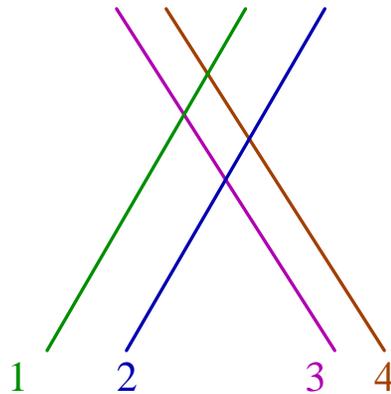
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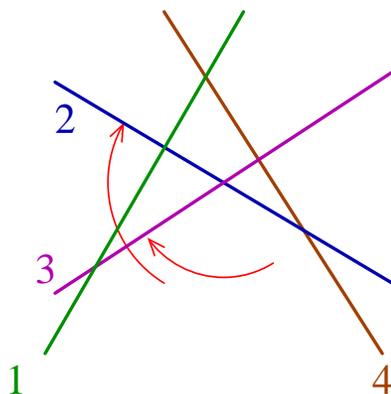


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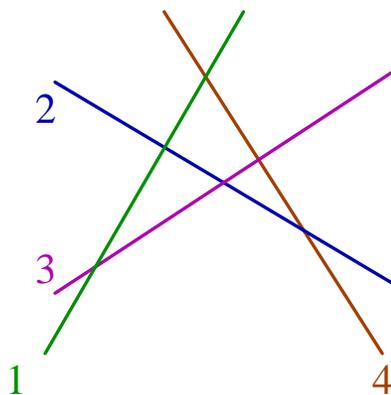


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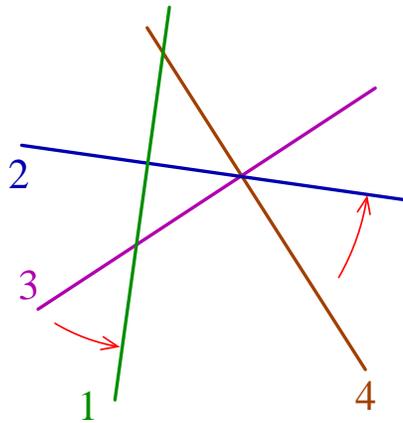


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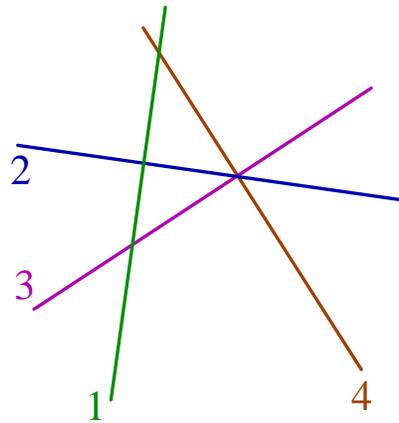


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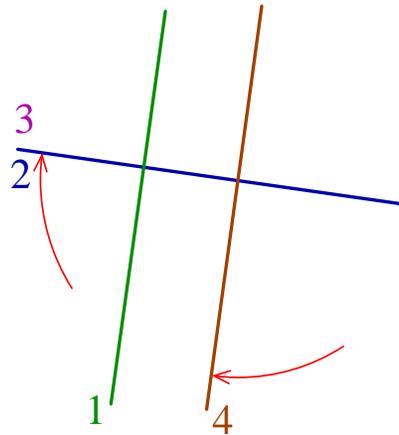


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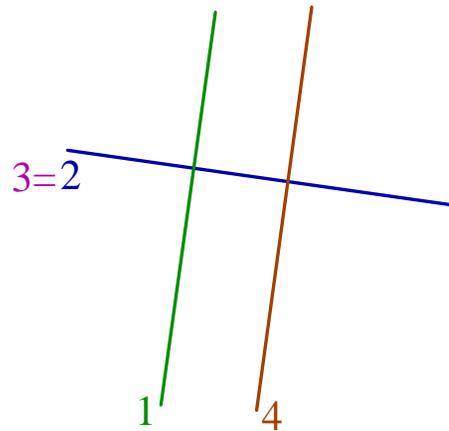


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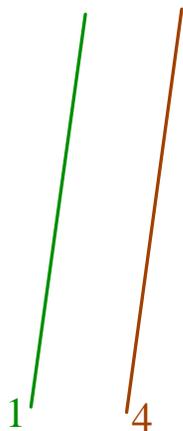


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**Further examples** in hyperbolic spaces, spheres, projective spaces and other symmetric spaces.

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**Key example:**  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} : x \mapsto 2a - x$ , the reflection of  $\mathbb{R}$  in a point  $a$ .

**Generalization:** a symmetry of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  in a  $k$ -subspace.

**Further examples** in hyperbolic spaces, spheres, projective spaces and other symmetric spaces.

Correspondence **Flipper**  $S \longleftrightarrow$  **Flip in**  $S$  is the shortest connection between simple static geometric objects - flippers - and isometries.

---

# Symmetry about a point

is a flip.

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is a flip. Composition of flips in points



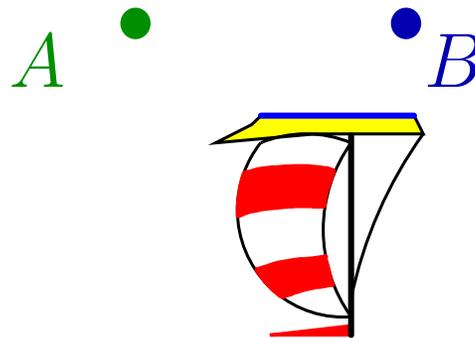
*A*



*B*

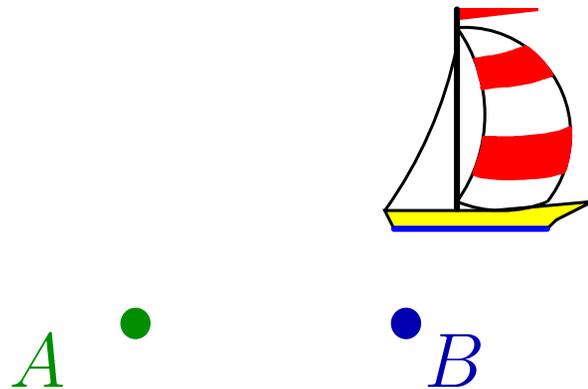
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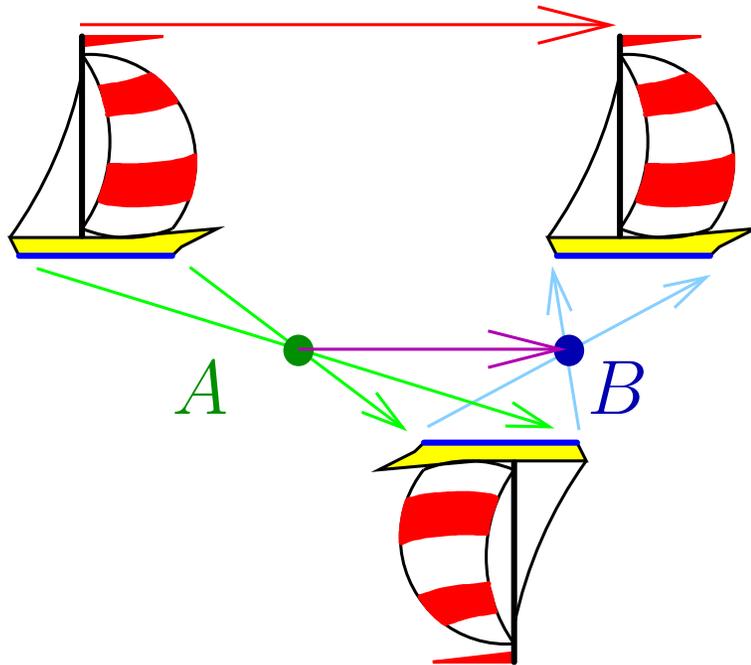
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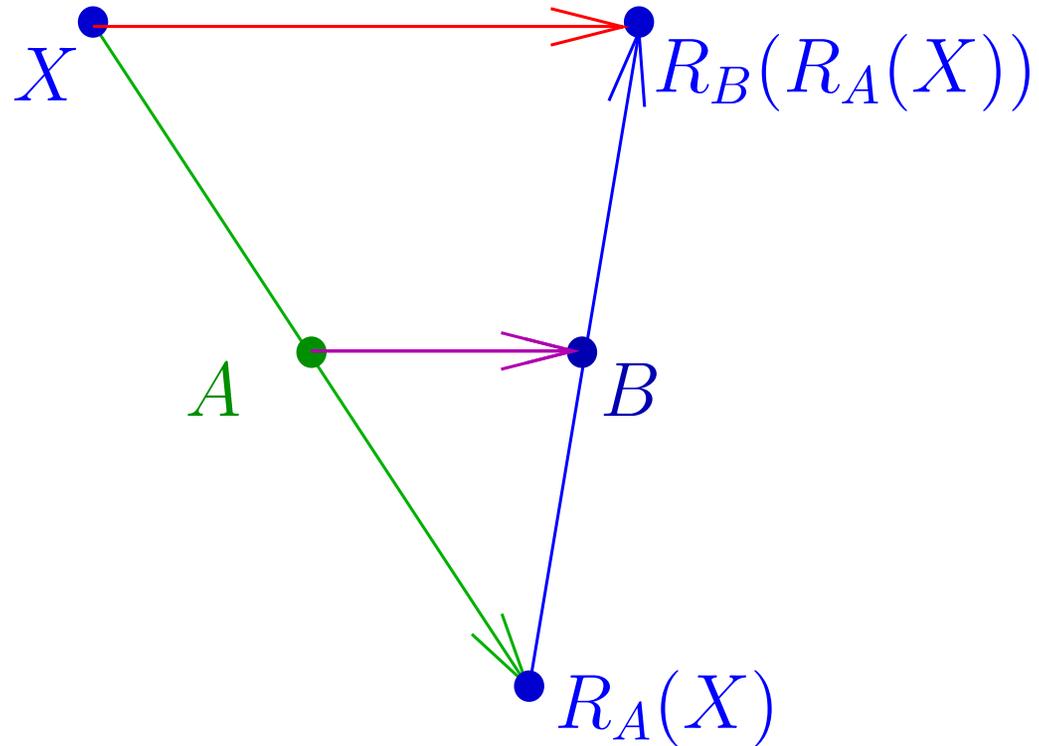
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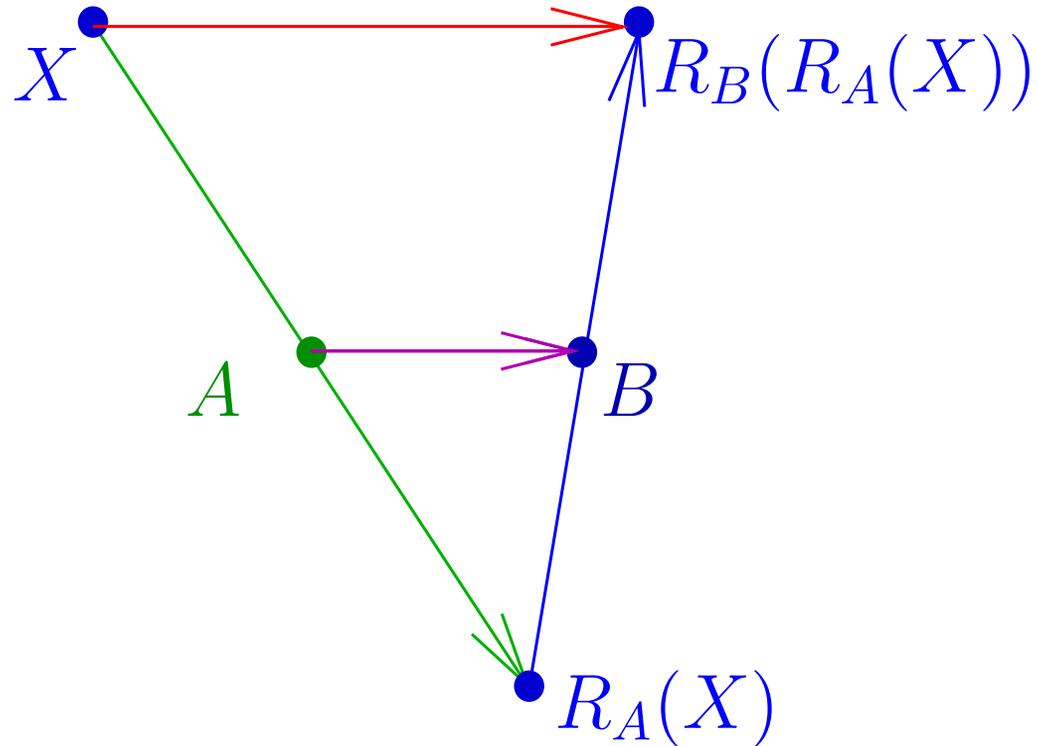
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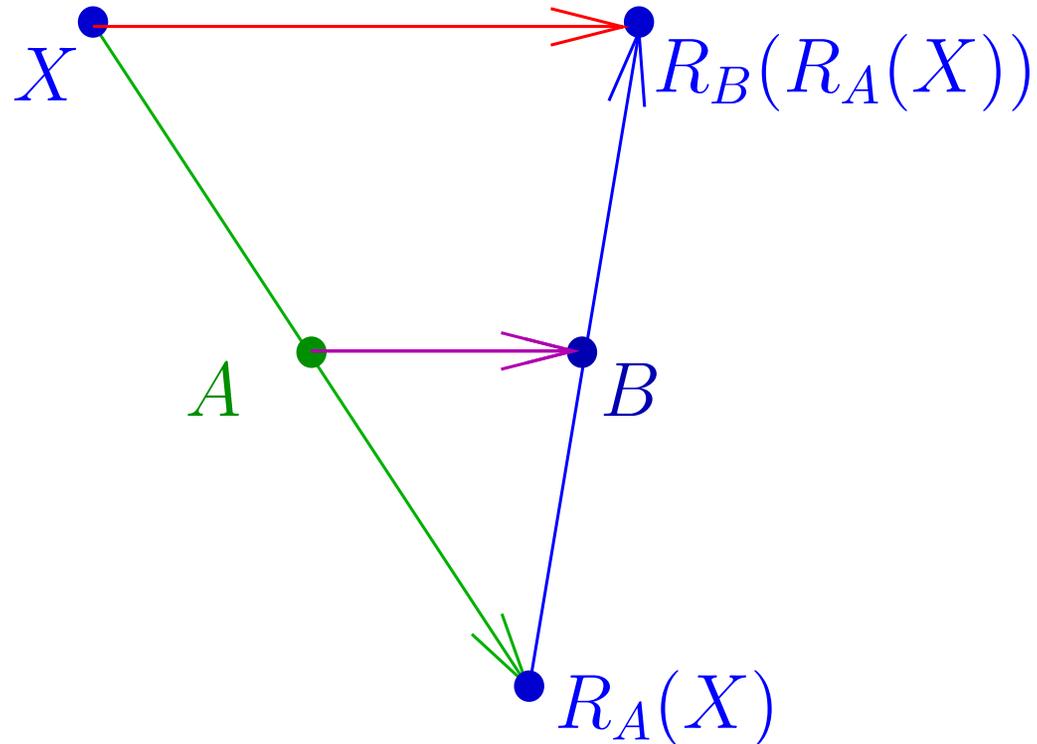
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$\overrightarrow{AB}$  is half the arrow representing  $R_B \circ R_A$ .

## Head to tail

Compare the head to tail addition  $\overrightarrow{AB} + \overrightarrow{BC} = \overrightarrow{AC}$

to  $(R_C \circ R_B) \circ (R_B \circ R_A) = R_C \circ R_B^2 \circ R_A = R_C \circ R_A.$

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**Corollary.** *Any isometry of a hyperbolic space, sphere, projective space, etc. is a composition of two flips.*

***A flip-flop decomposition.***

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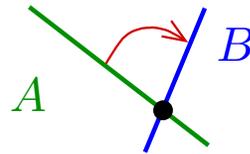
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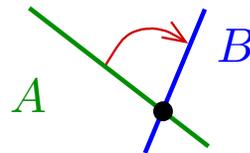
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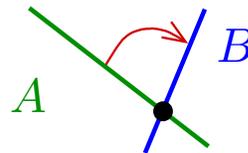
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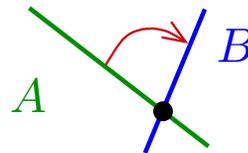
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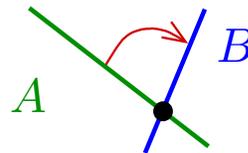
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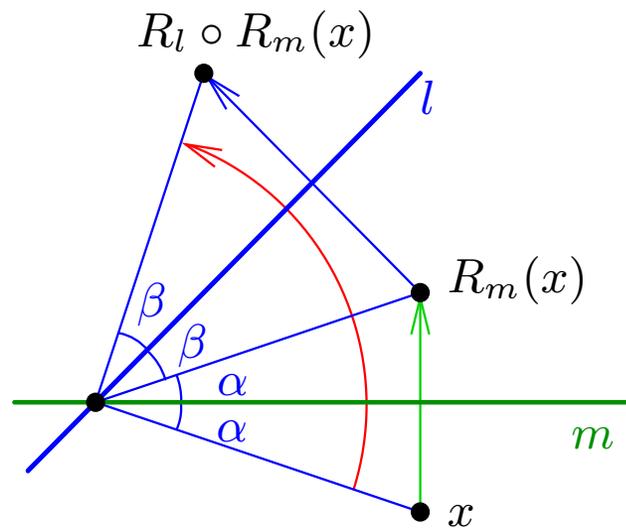
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**Problem.** Find an explicit description for the equivalence.

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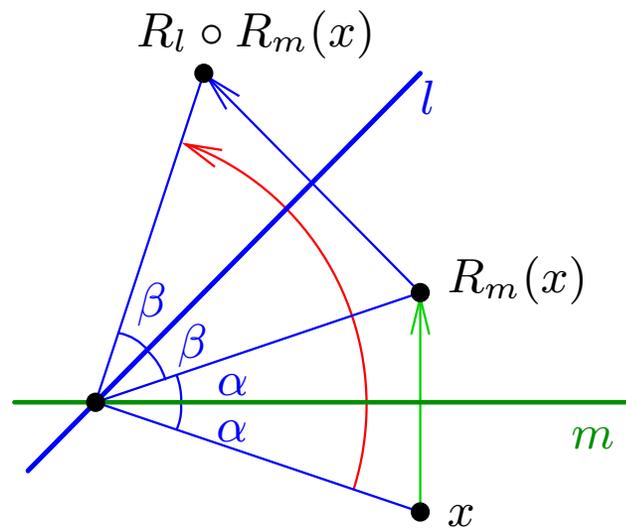
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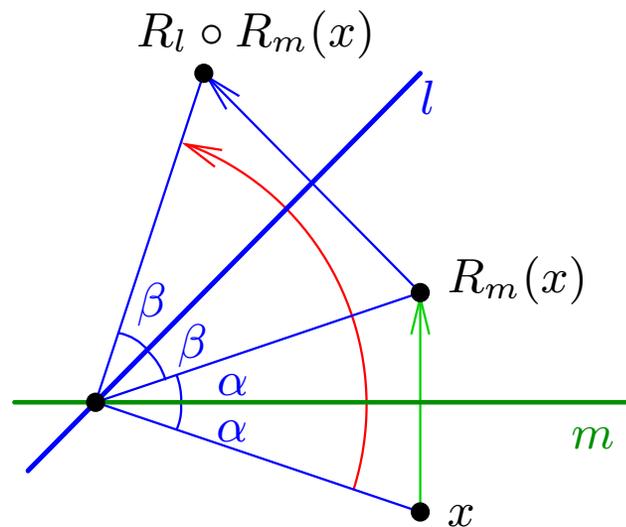


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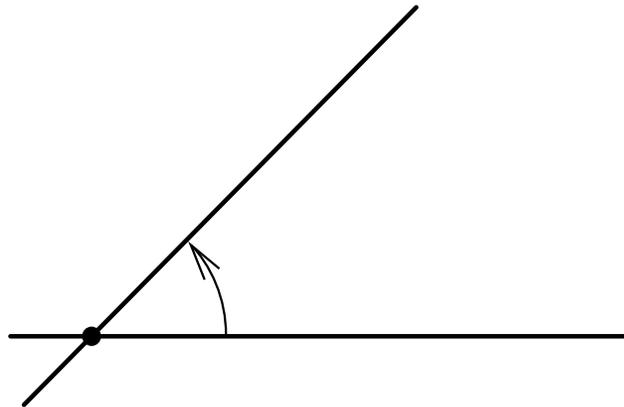
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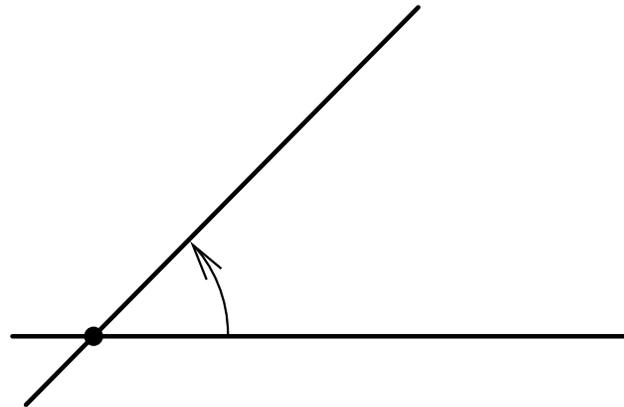
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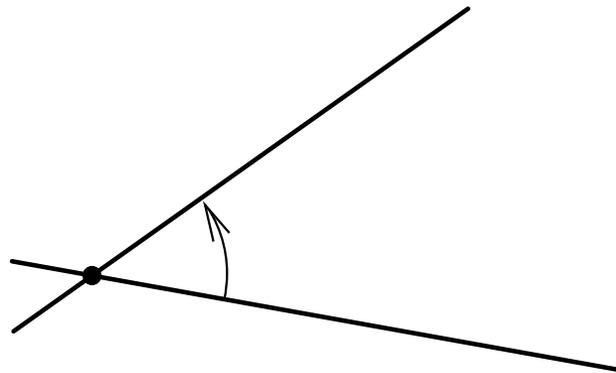
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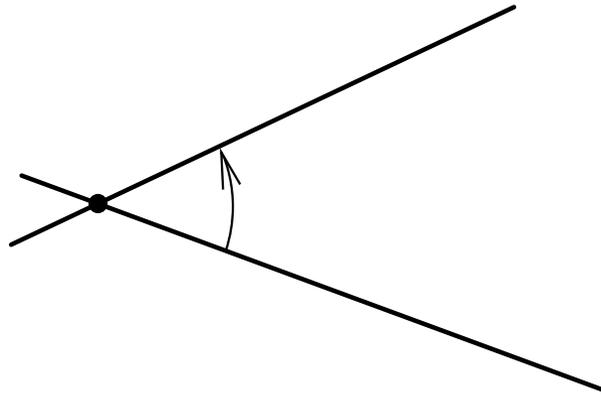
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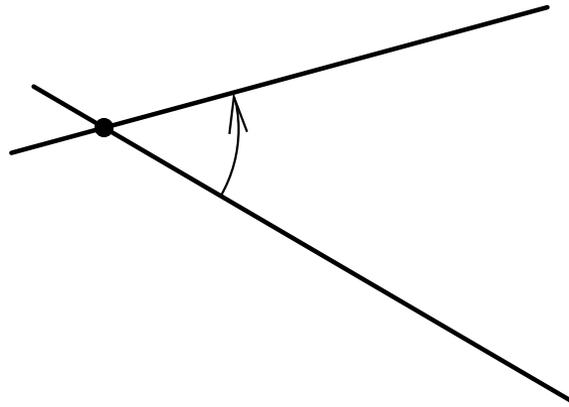
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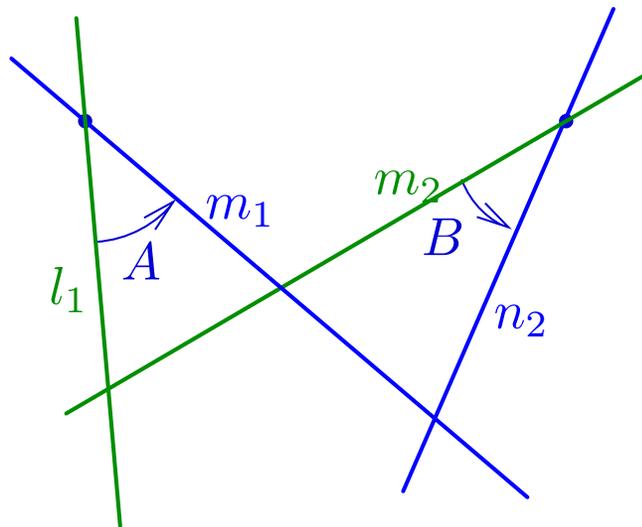


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# Head to tail for rotations

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Given two rotations, present them by bflippers.



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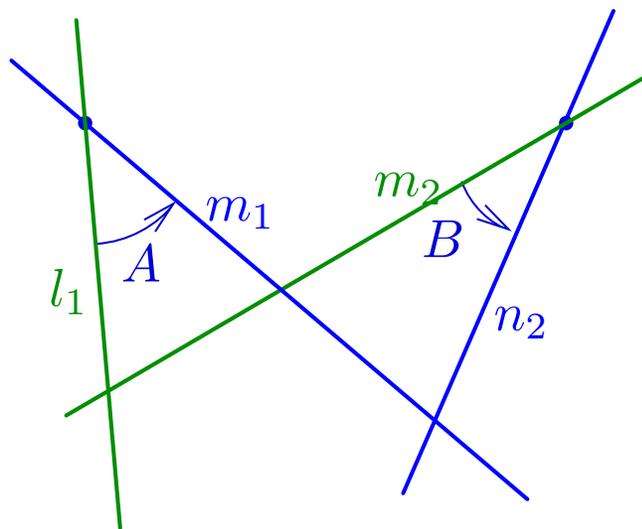
Given two rotations, present them by biflipper.

By rotating the biflipper,

make **the second line in the first biflipper**

to coincide with **the first line in the second,**

so that the biflipper are  $(l, m)$  and  $(m, n)$ .



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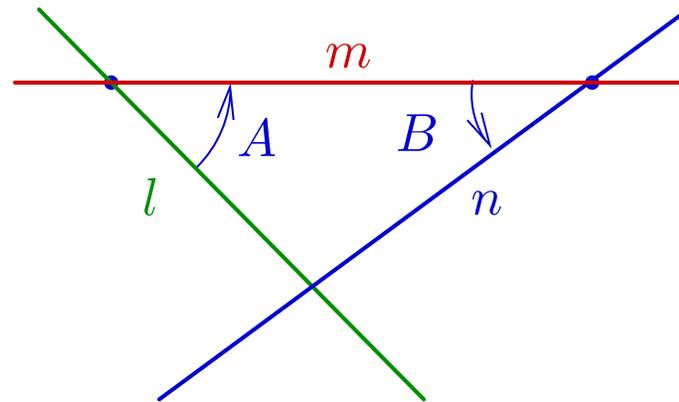
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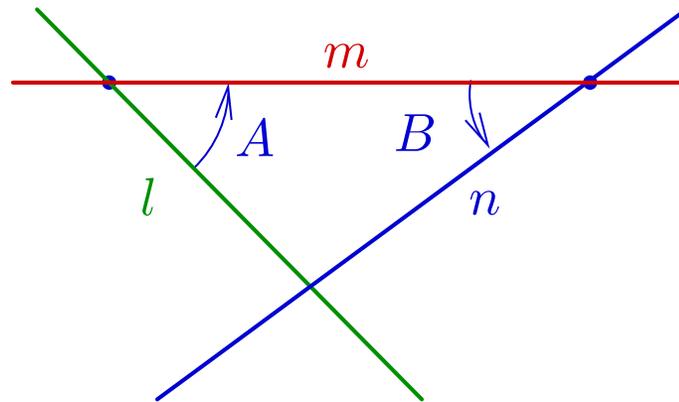
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Erase  $m$  and draw an oriented arc from  $l$  to  $n$ ,

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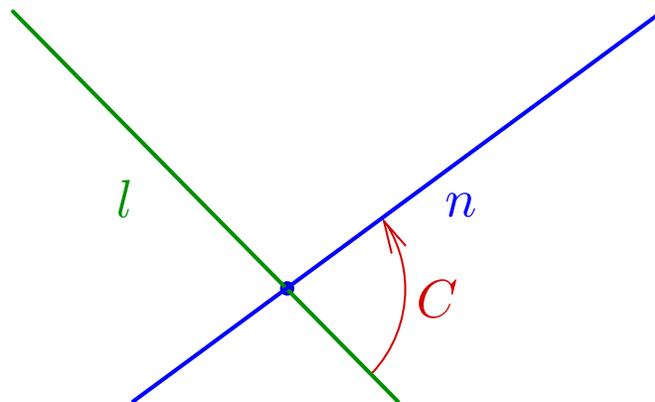
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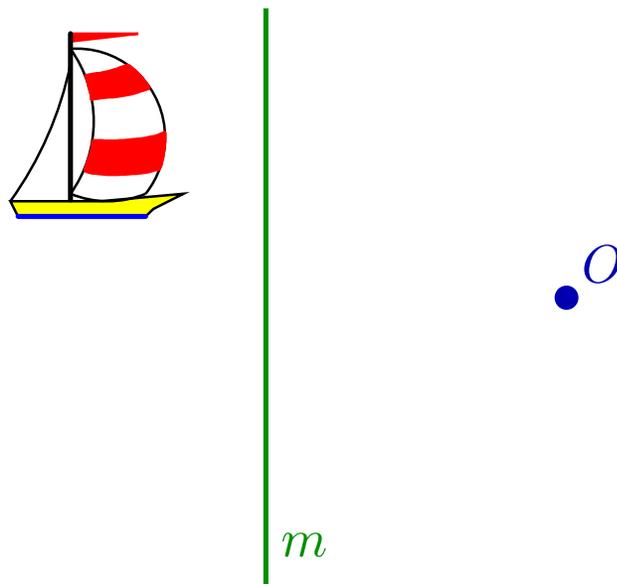
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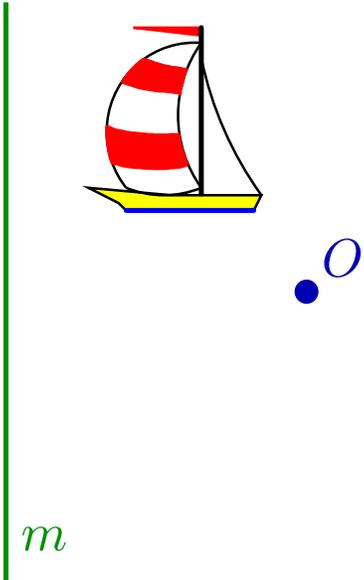
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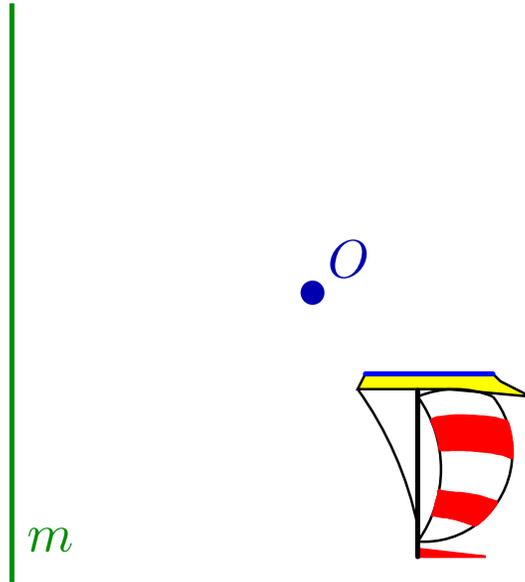
# Composing reflections in line and point



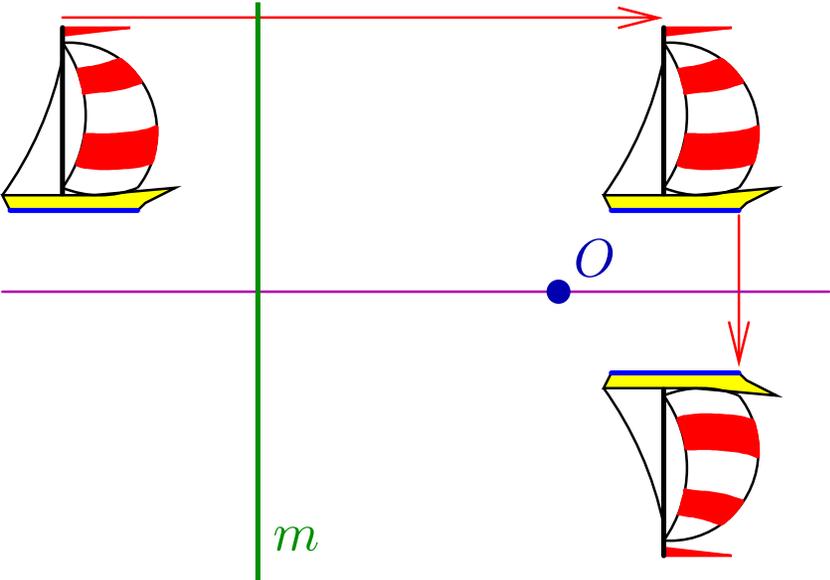
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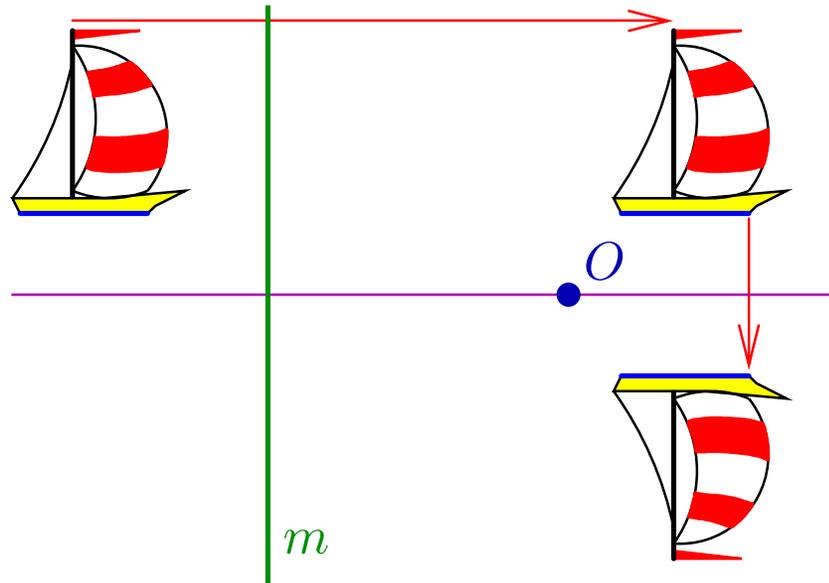
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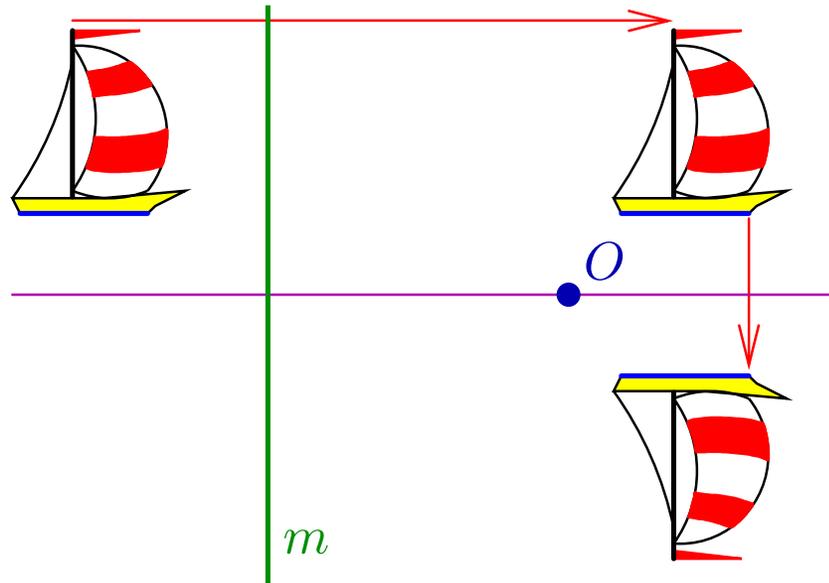
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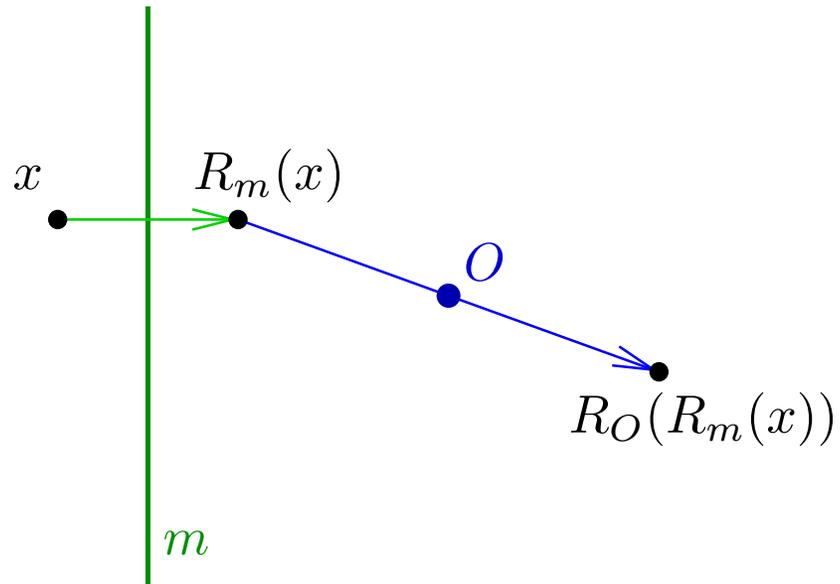
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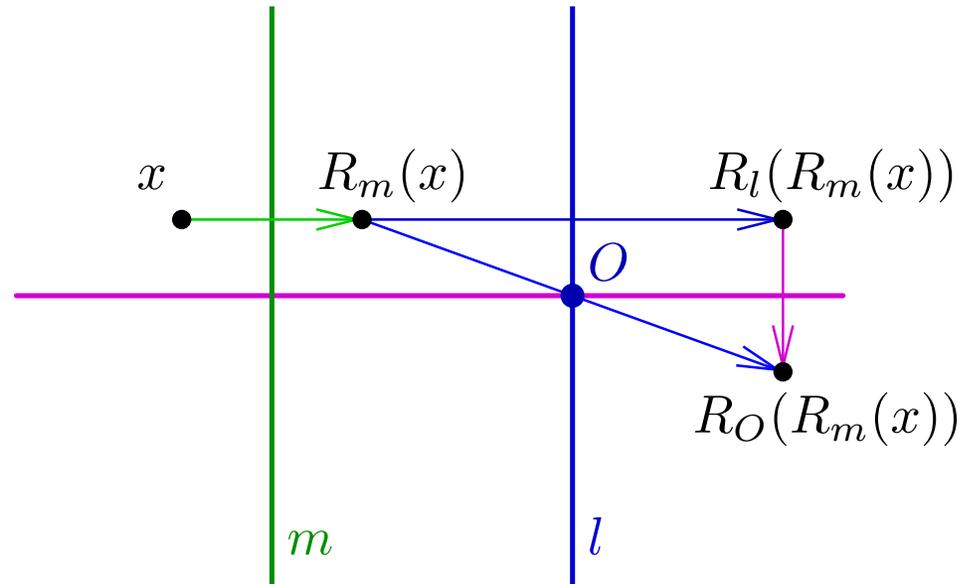
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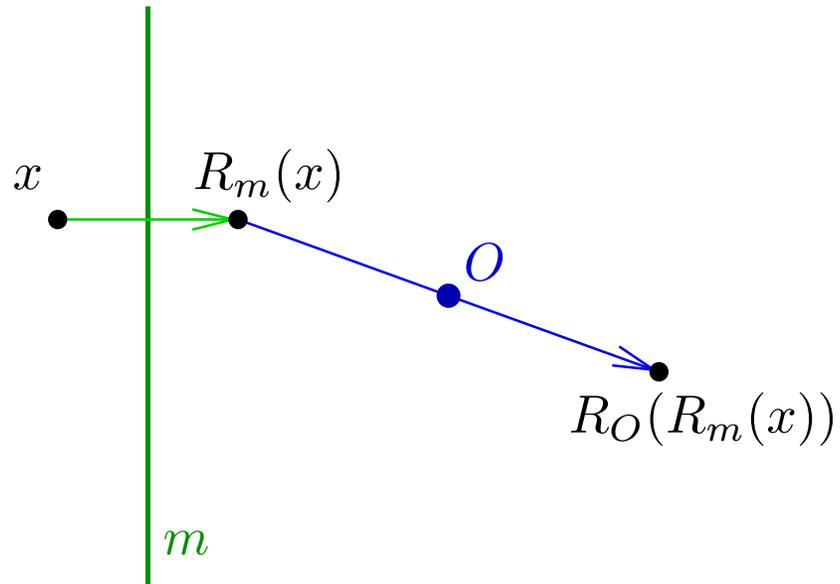
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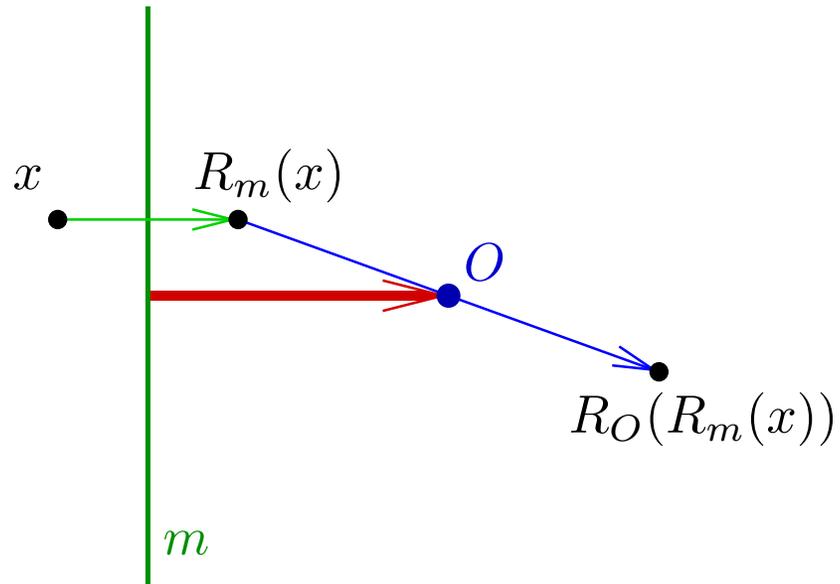


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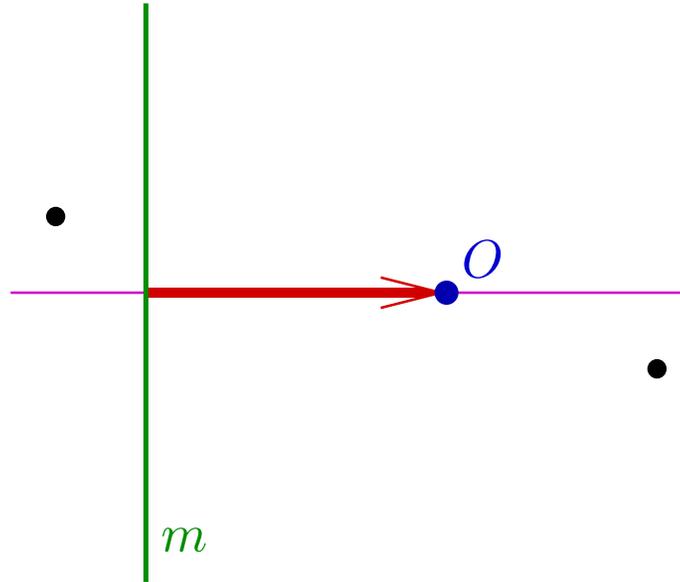
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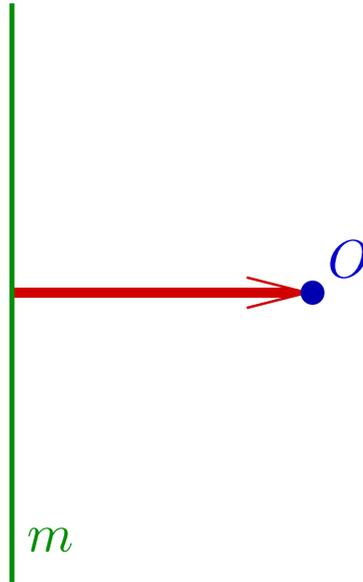
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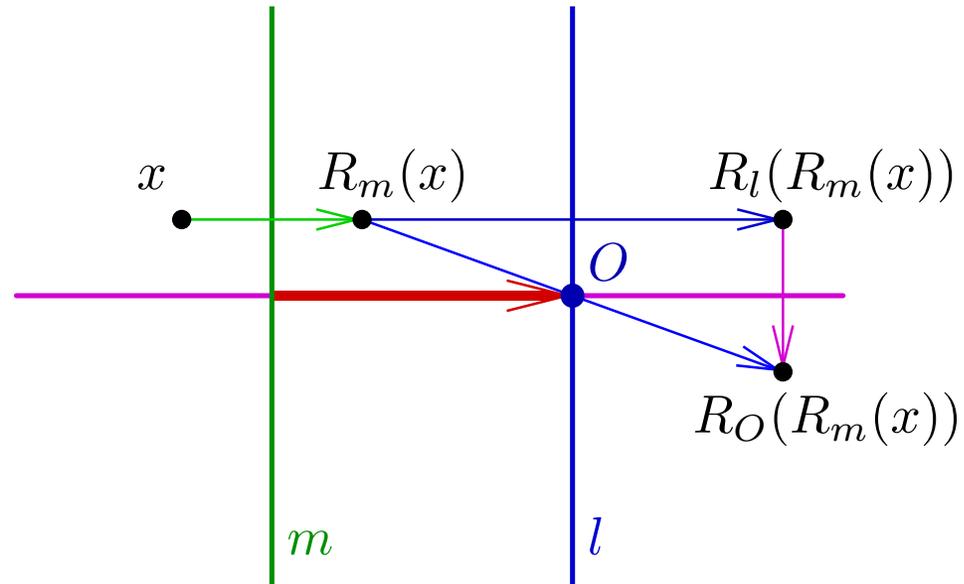
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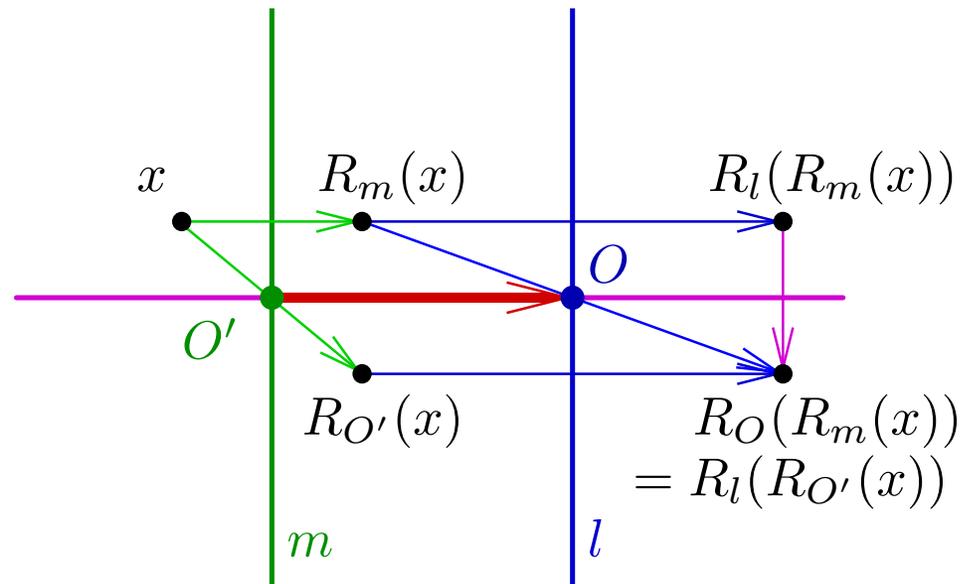
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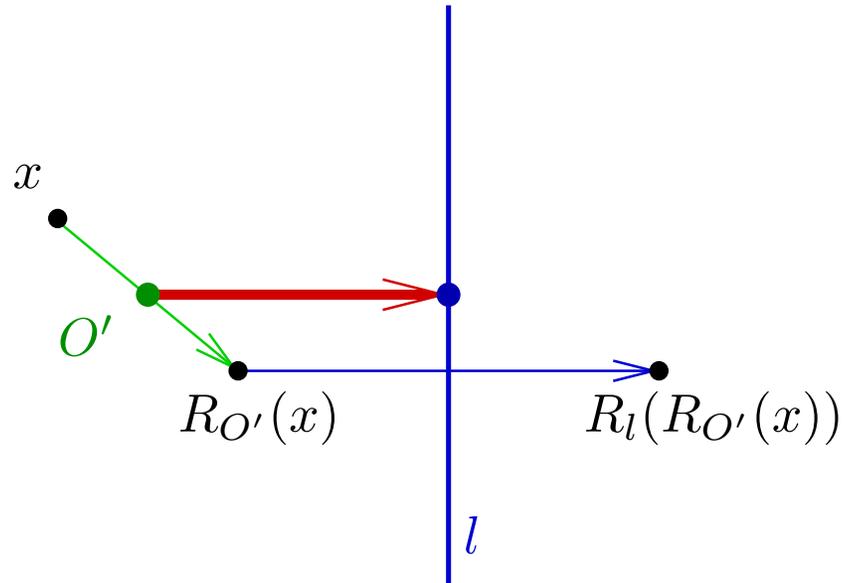
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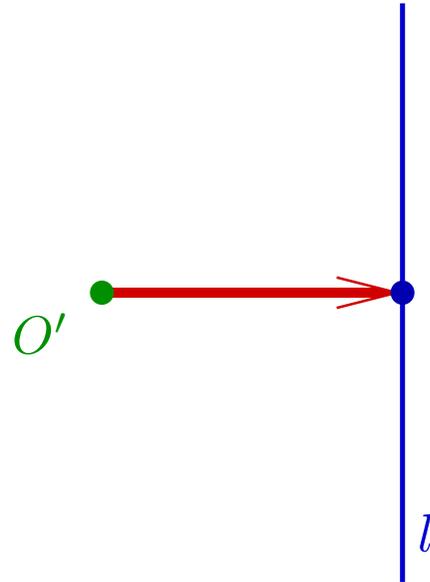
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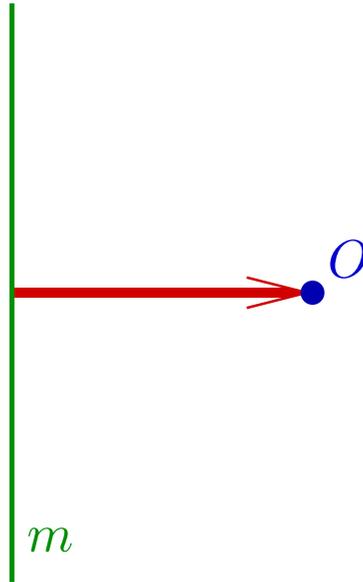
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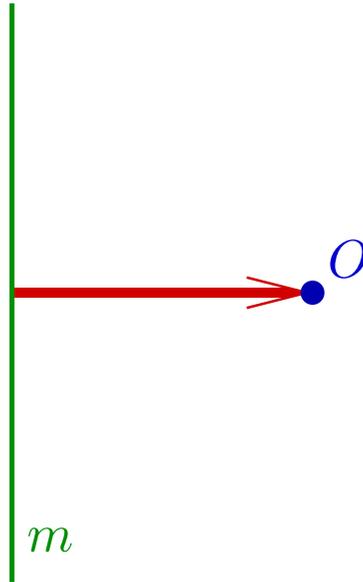
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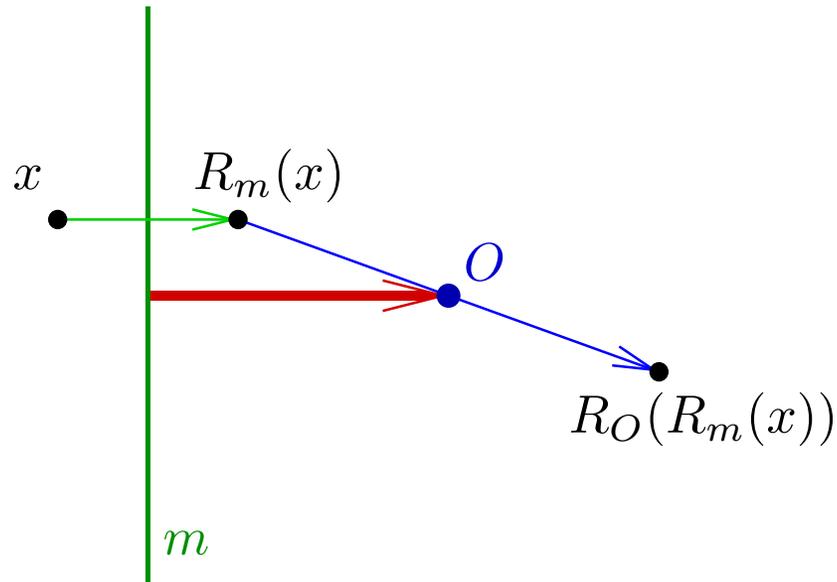


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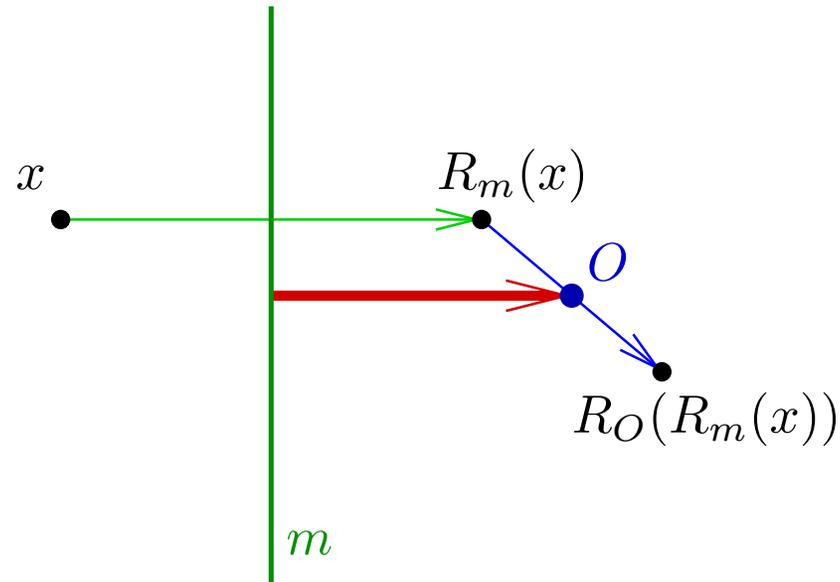
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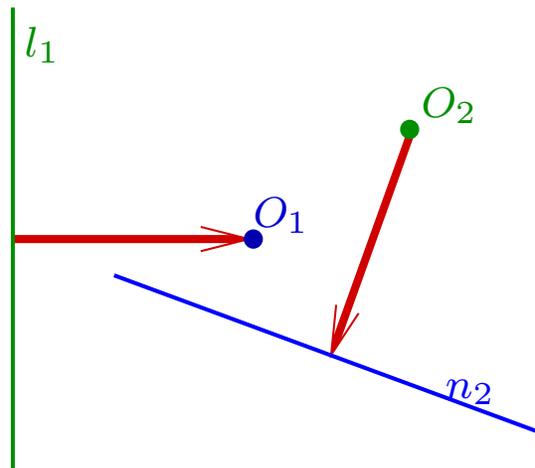
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The head in the first biflipper and tail in the second one

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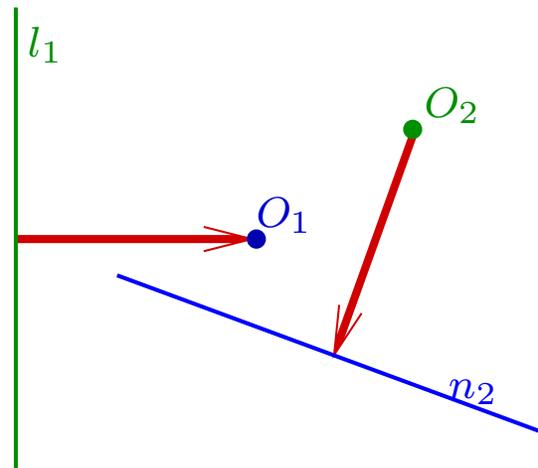
The head in the first biflipper and tail in the second one

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By gliding the biflippers, make the head of the first biflipper

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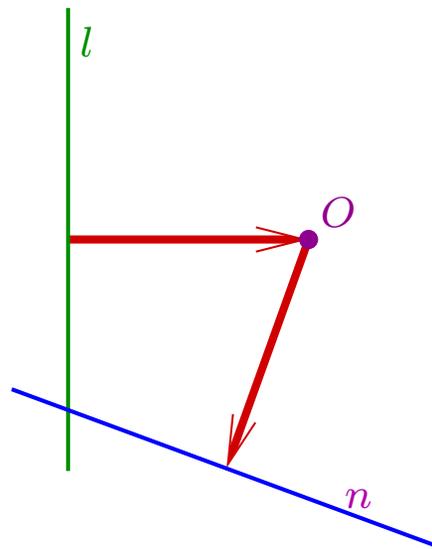
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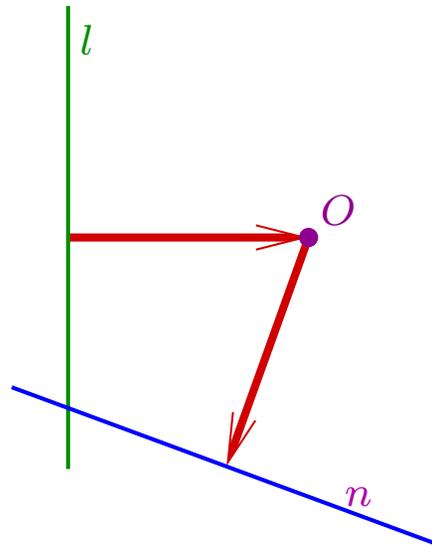
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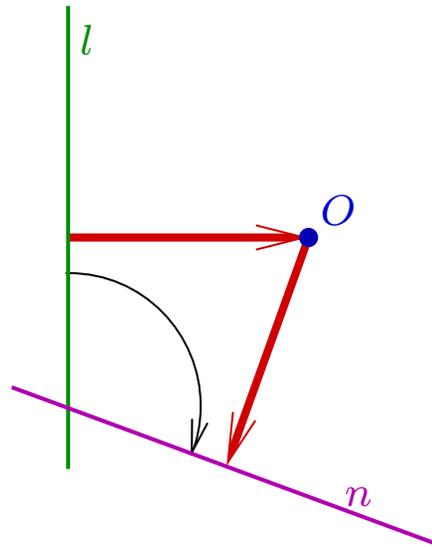
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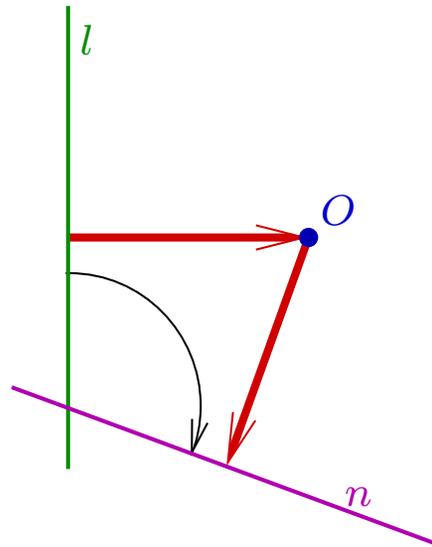
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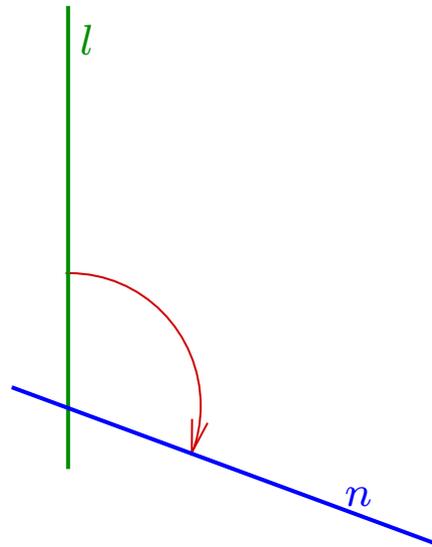
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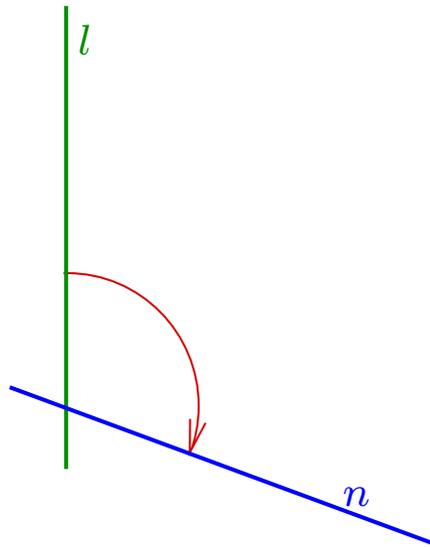
should **NOT** be lines.

By gliding the biflipper, make the head of the first biflipper

coinciding with the tail of the second.

so that the biflipper are  $\vec{lO}$  and  $\vec{On}$ .

Draw an oriented arc from  $l$  to  $n$  and erase  $O$ .



This is a rotation!

## Head to tail for glide reflections

Given two glide reflections, present them by biflipper.

The head in the first biflipper and tail in the second one

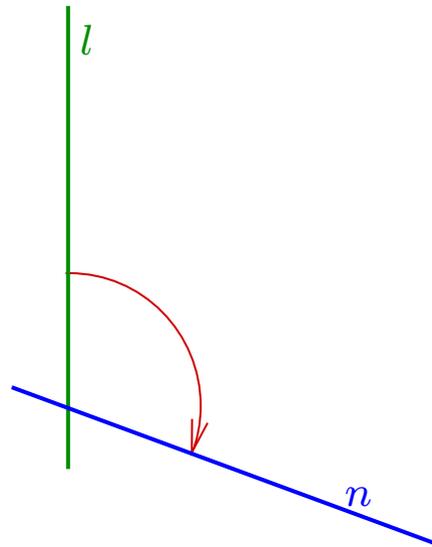
should **NOT** be lines.

By gliding the biflipper, make the head of the first biflipper

coinciding with the tail of the second.

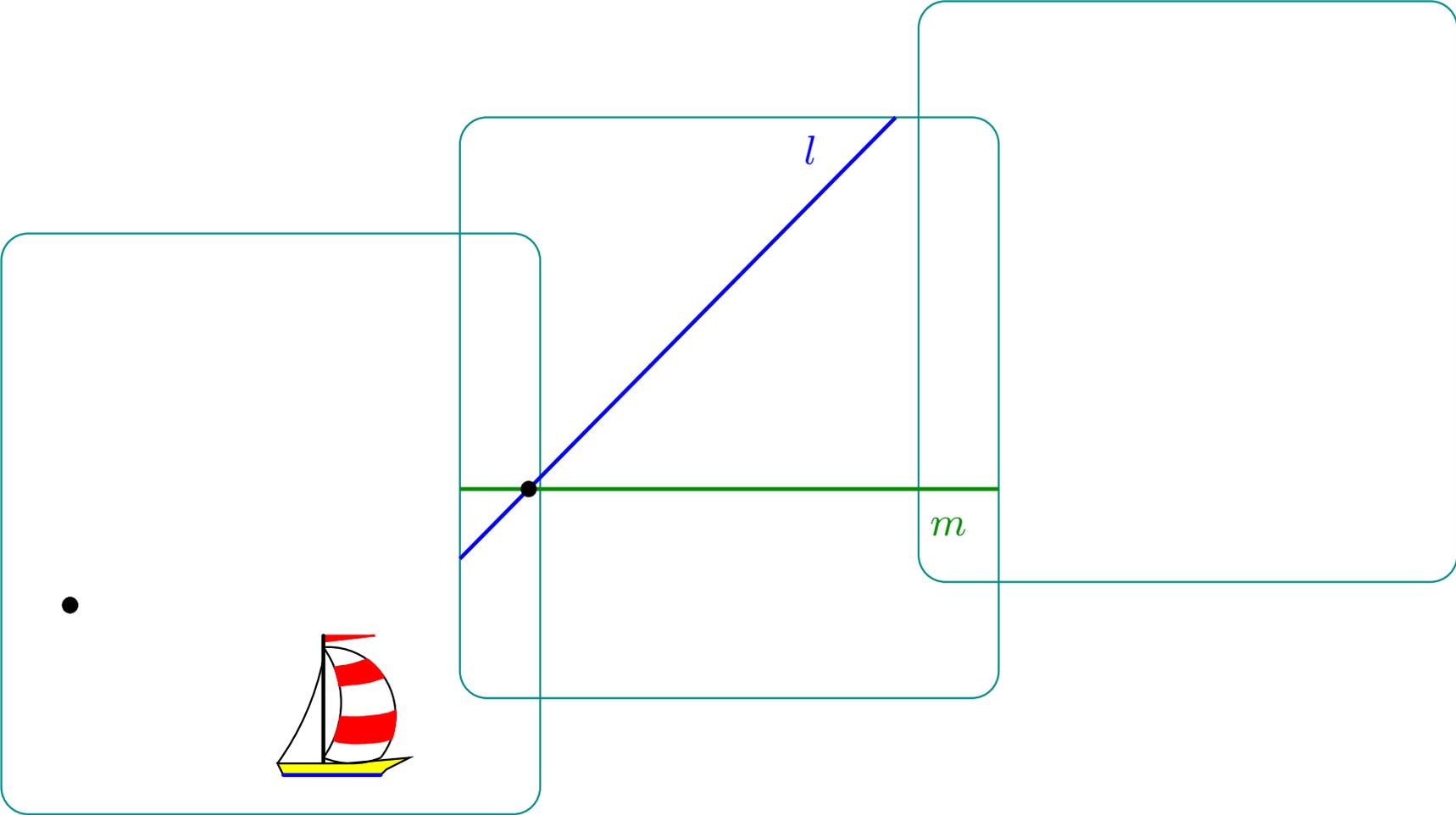
so that the biflipper are  $\vec{lO}$  and  $\vec{On}$ .

Draw an oriented arc from  $l$  to  $n$  and erase  $O$ .

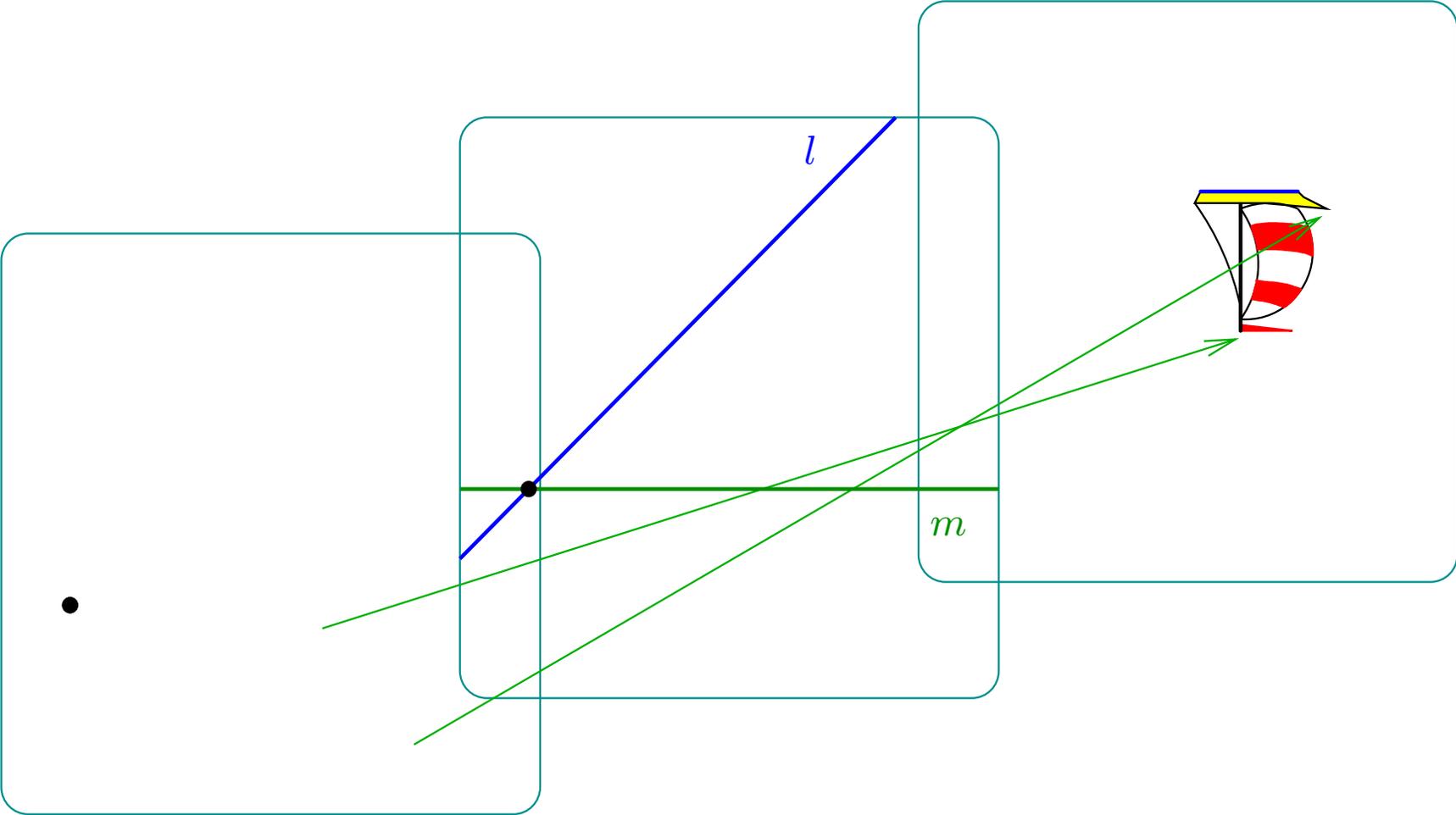


**Exercise.** Find head to tail rules for rotation  $\circ$  glide reflection.

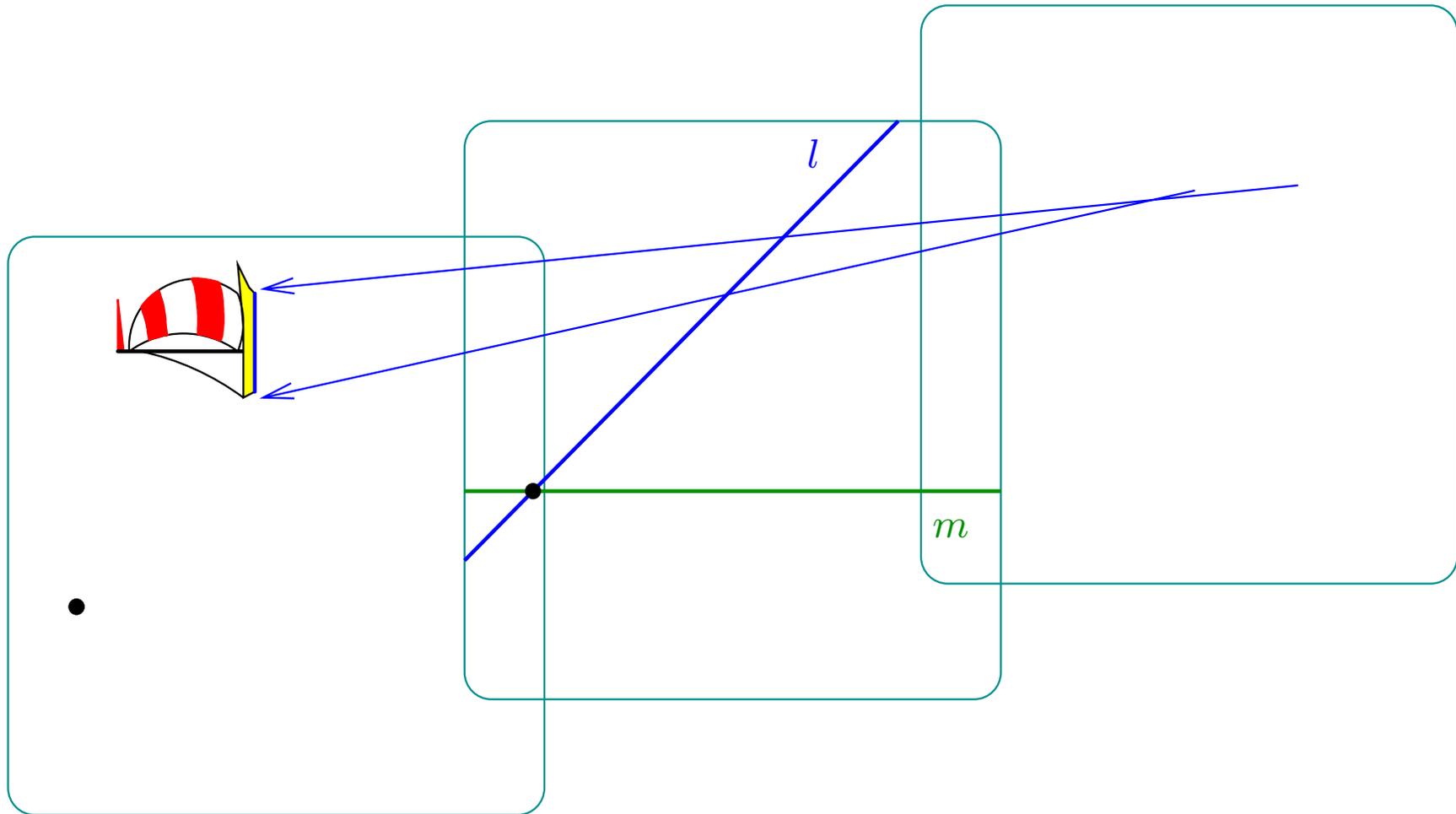
# In the 3-space. Rotation



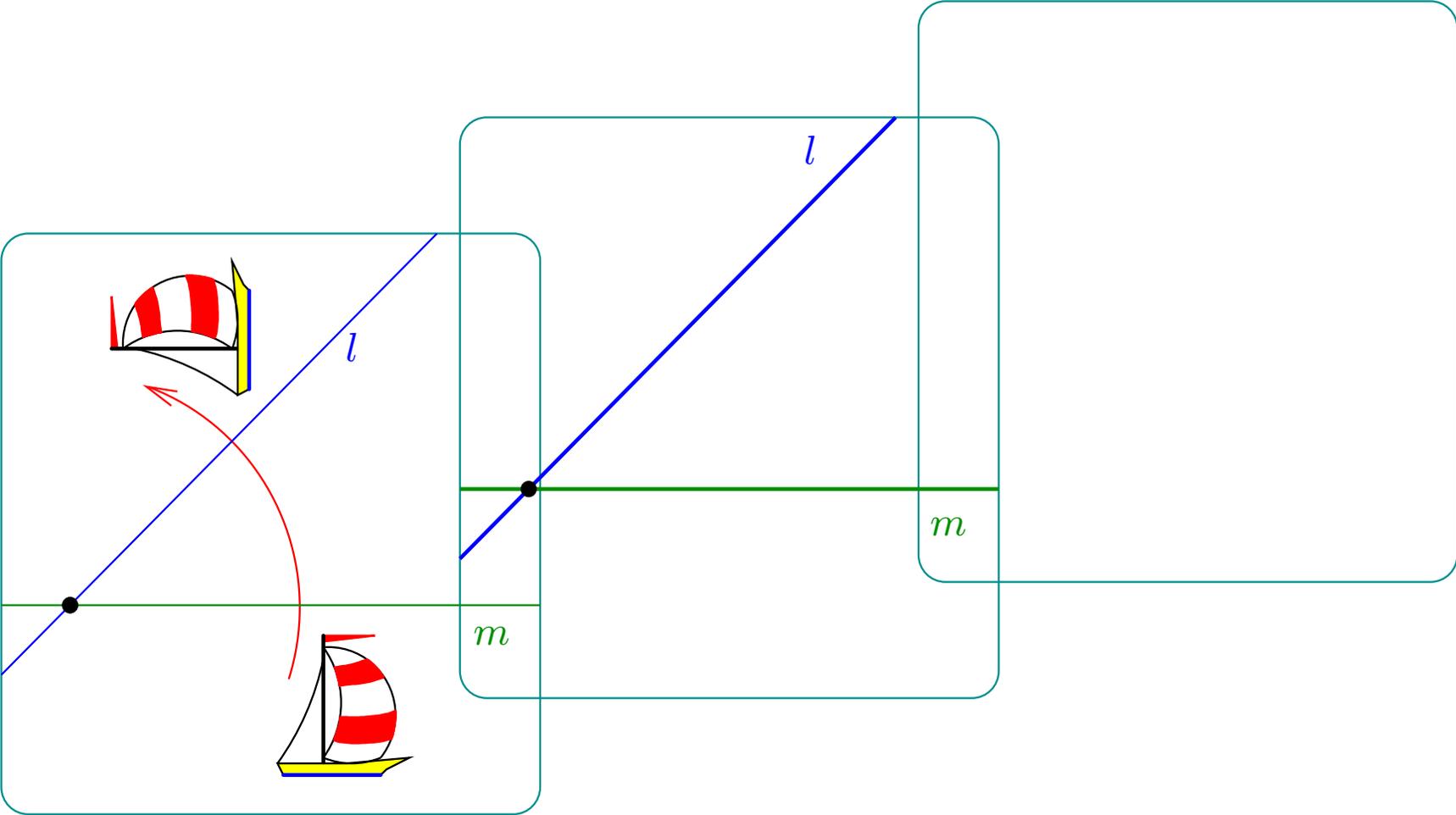
# In the 3-space. Rotation



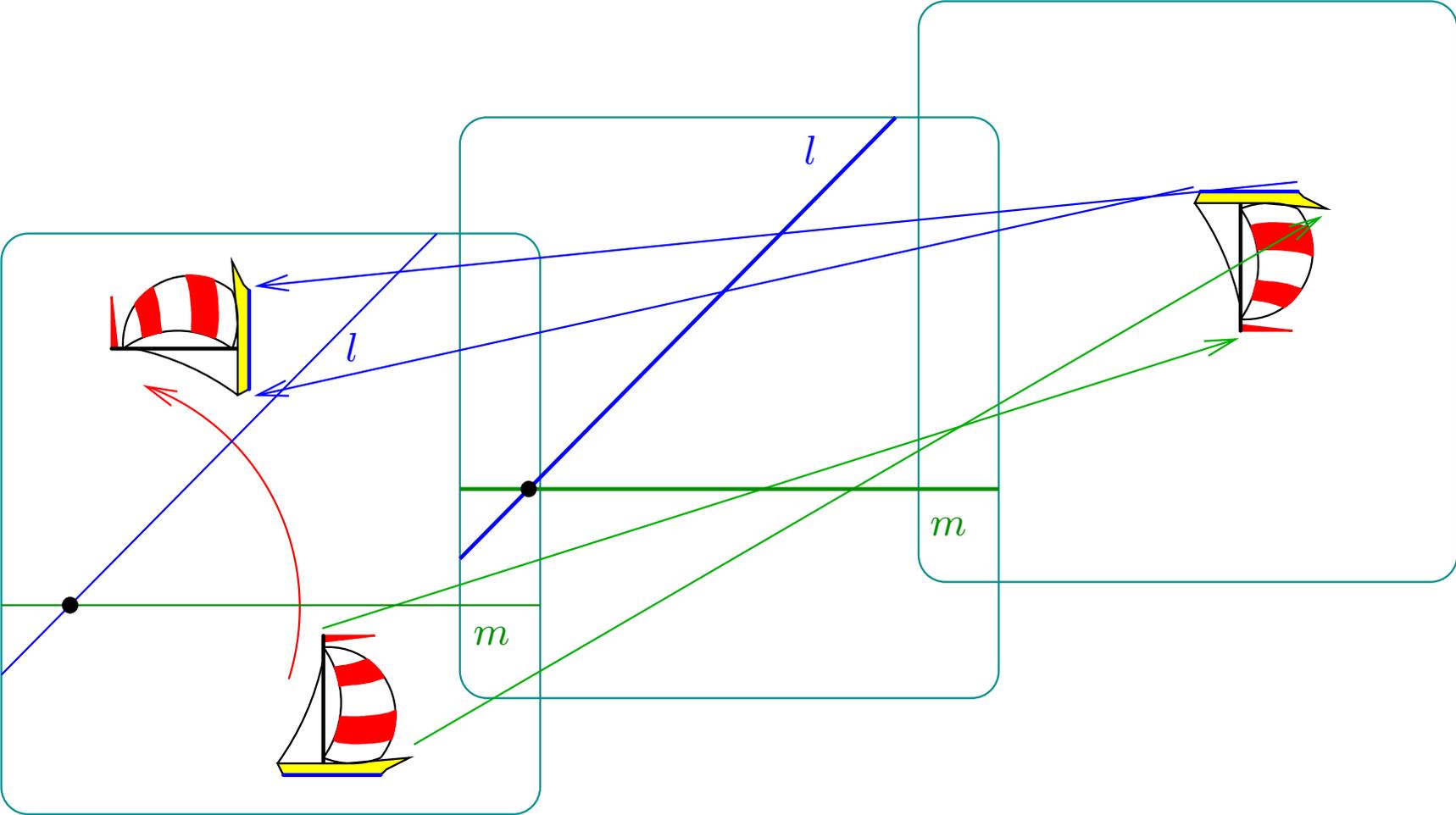
# In the 3-space. Rotation



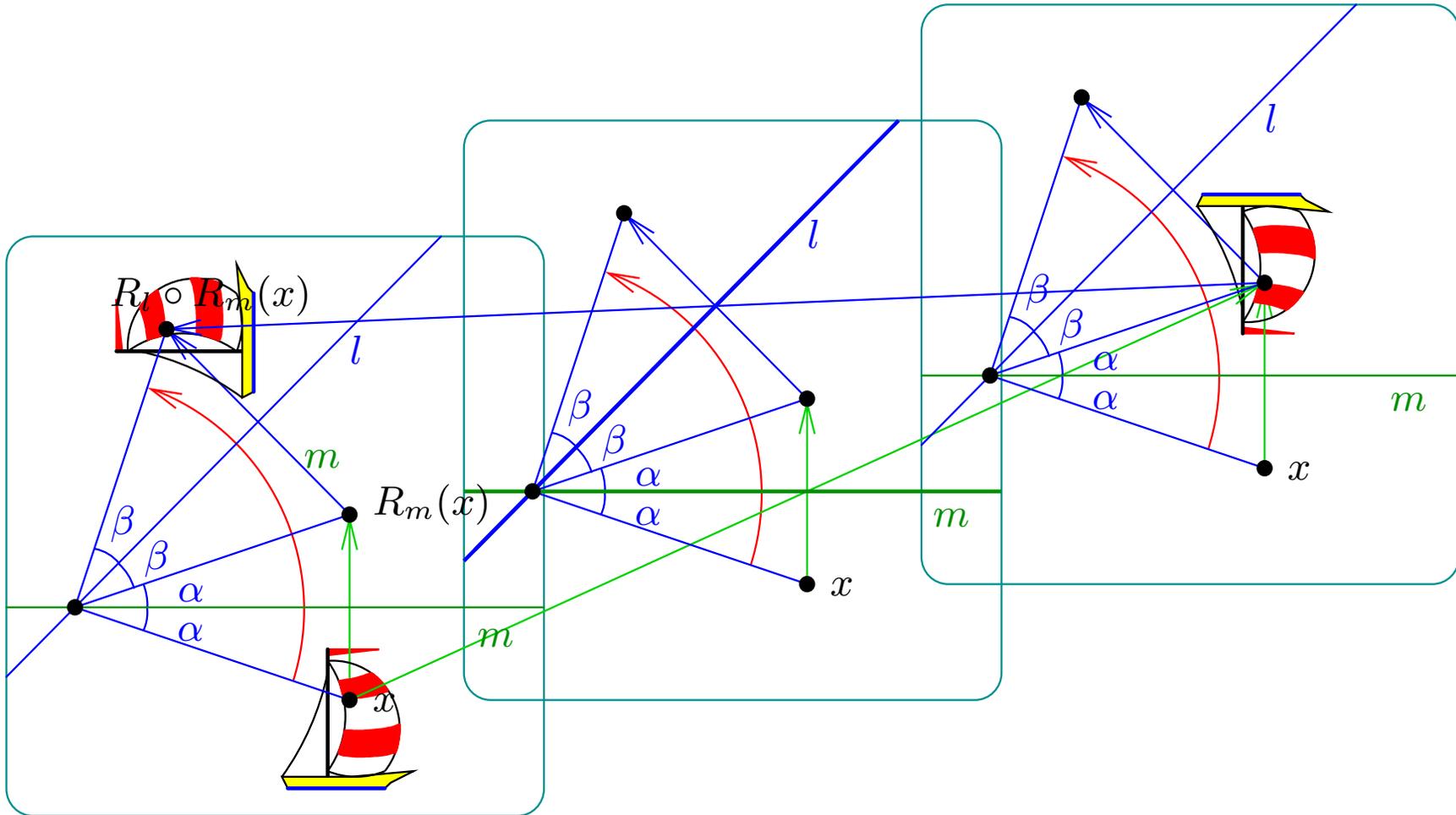
# In the 3-space. Rotation



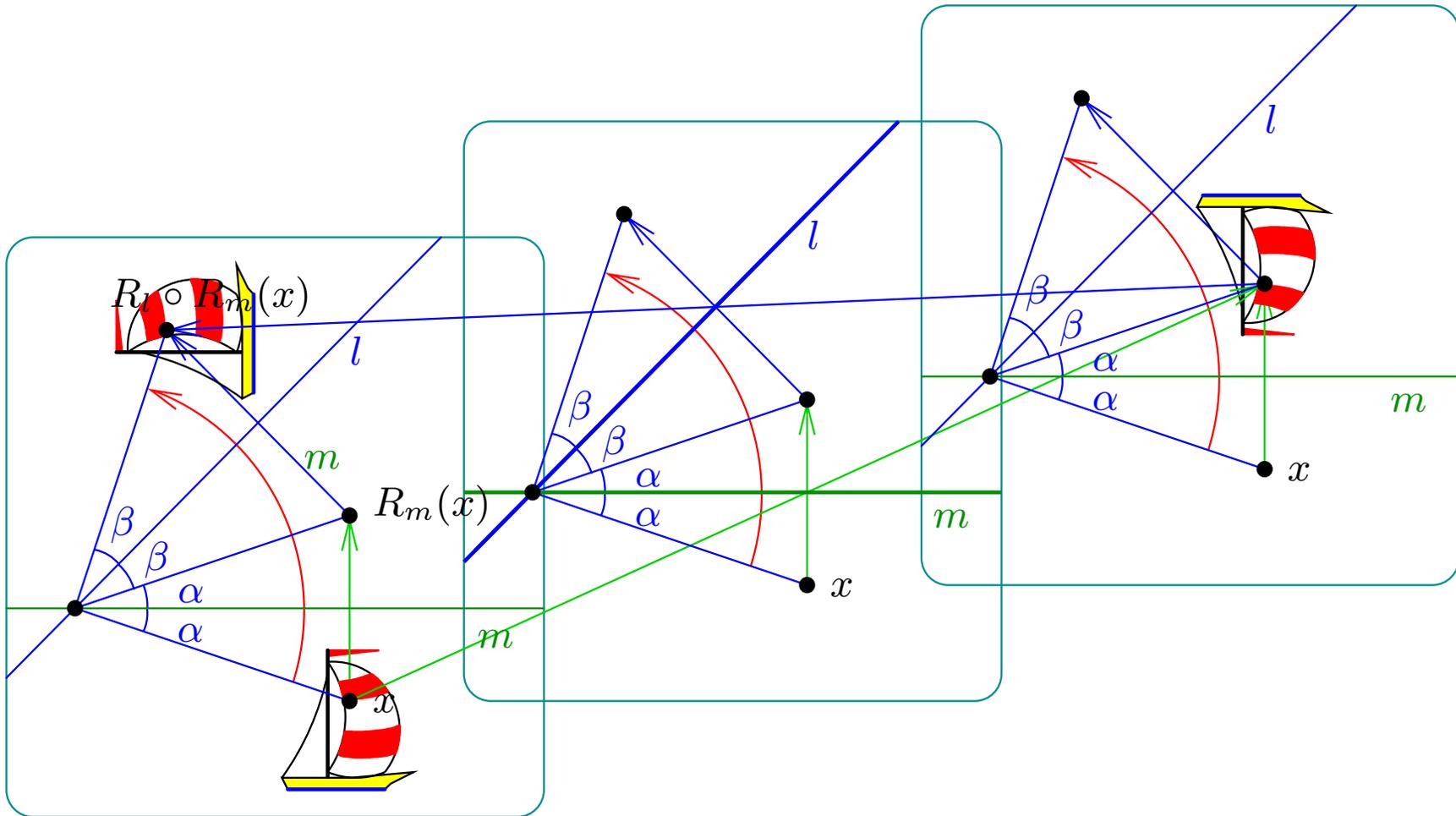
# In the 3-space. Rotation



# In the 3-space. Rotation

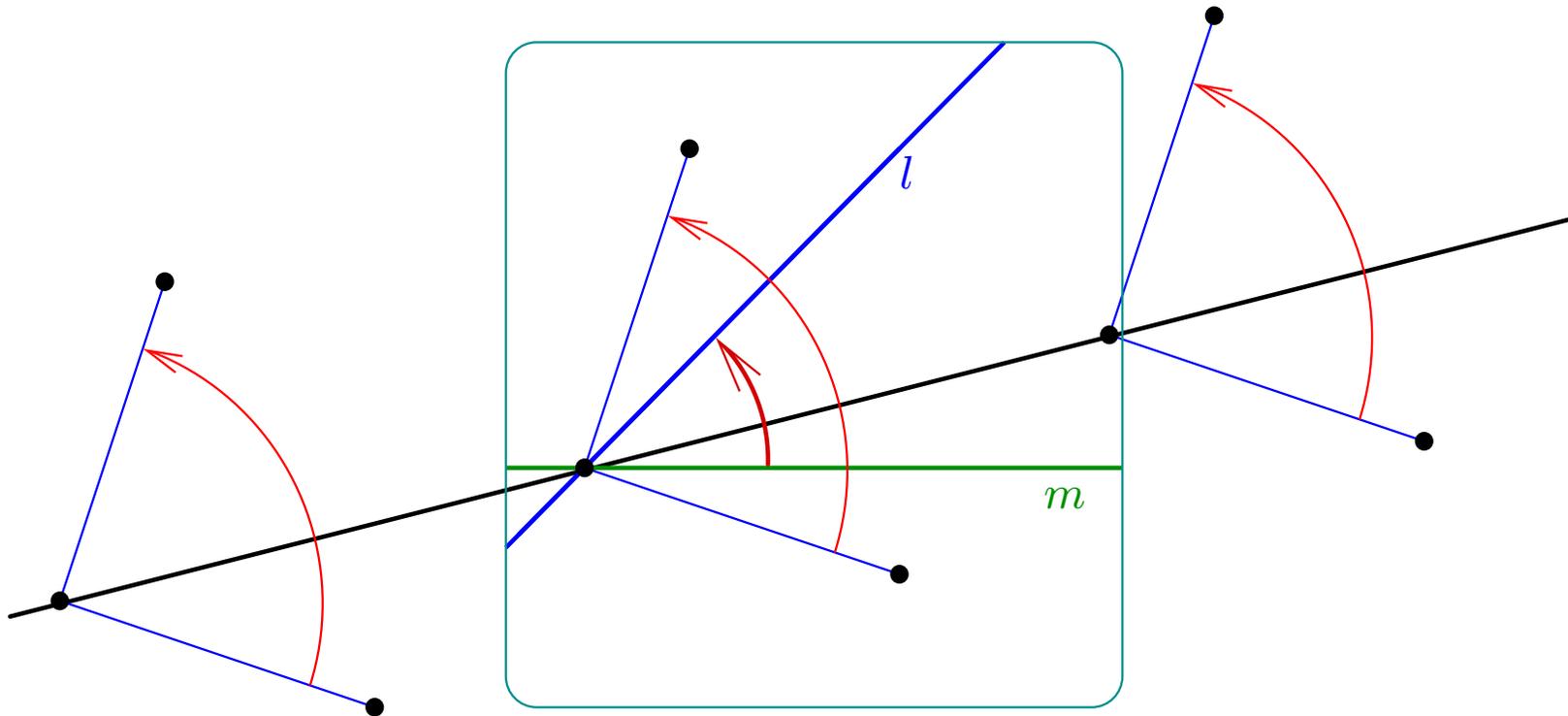


# In the 3-space. Rotation



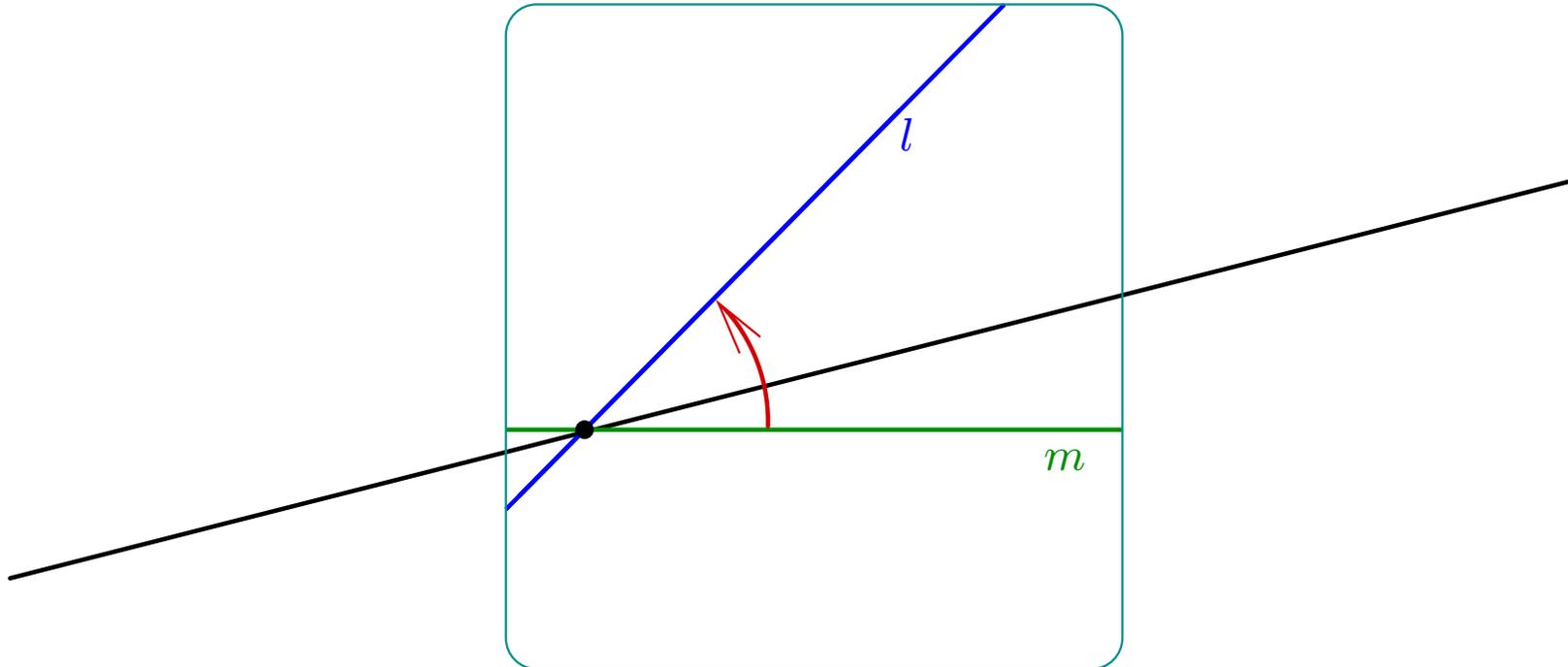
Everything like on the plane.

# In the 3-space. Rotation



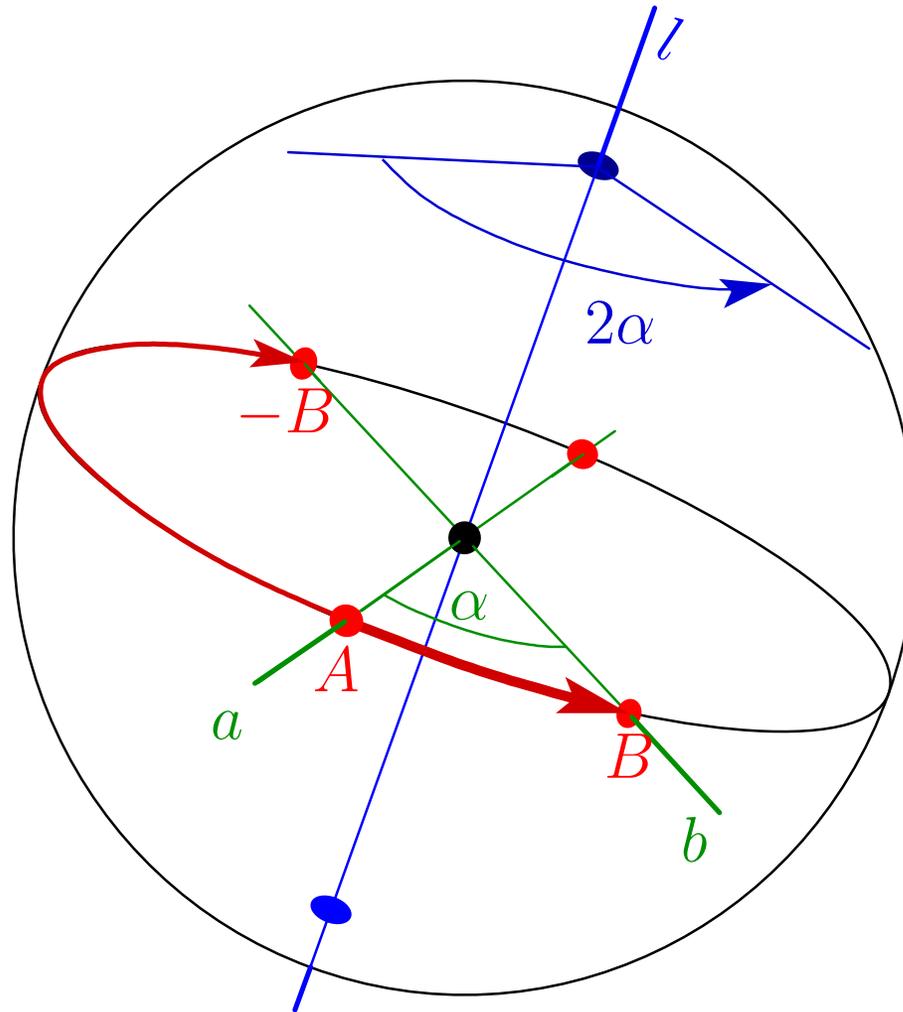
A biflipper formed by two intersecting lines defines a rotation of the 3-space about the axis  $\perp$  to the plane of the lines.

## In the 3-space. Rotation



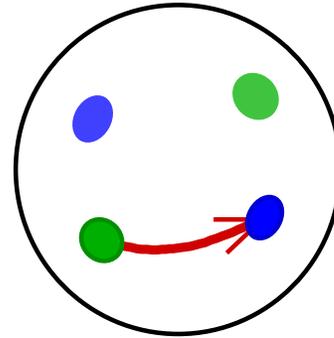
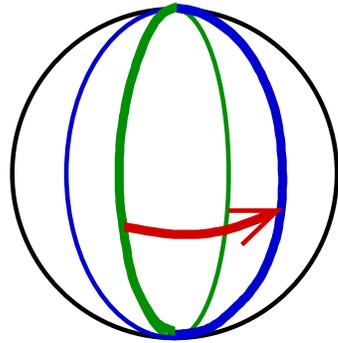
A biflipper formed by two intersecting lines defines a rotation of the 3-space about the axis  $\perp$  to the plane of the lines.

# Rotations of 2-sphere



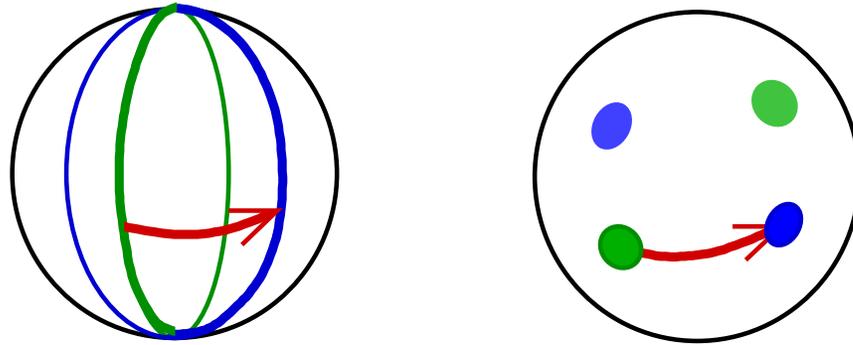
# Rotations of 2-sphere

Biflippers:

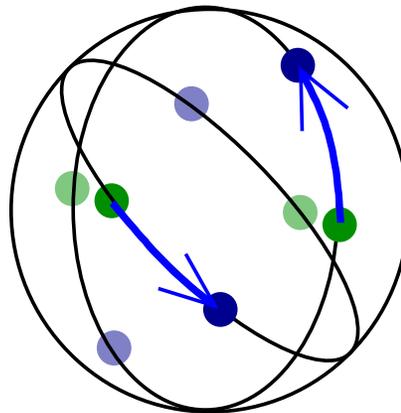


# Rotations of 2-sphere

Biflippers:

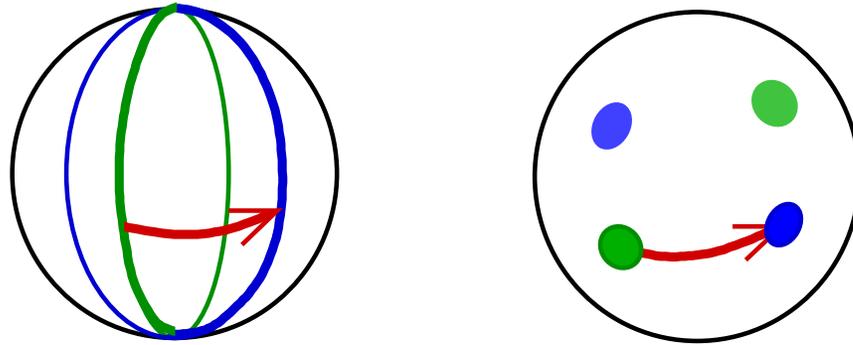


Head to tail for rotations:

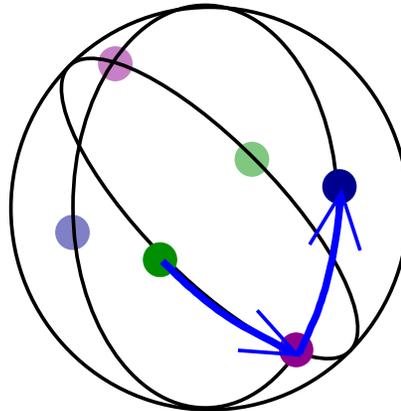


# Rotations of 2-sphere

Biflippers:

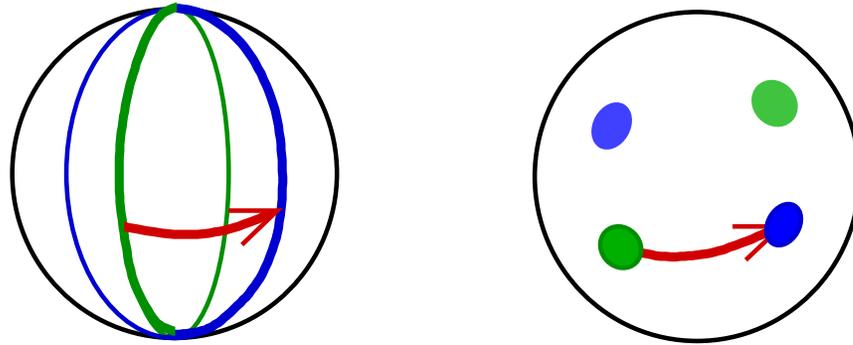


Head to tail for rotations:

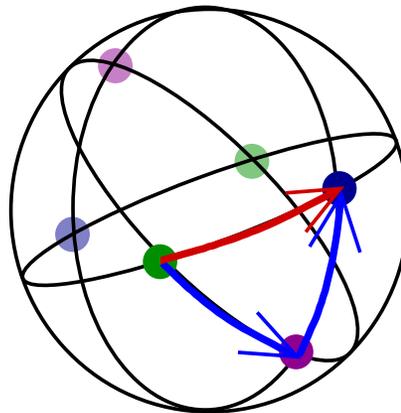


# Rotations of 2-sphere

Biflippers:

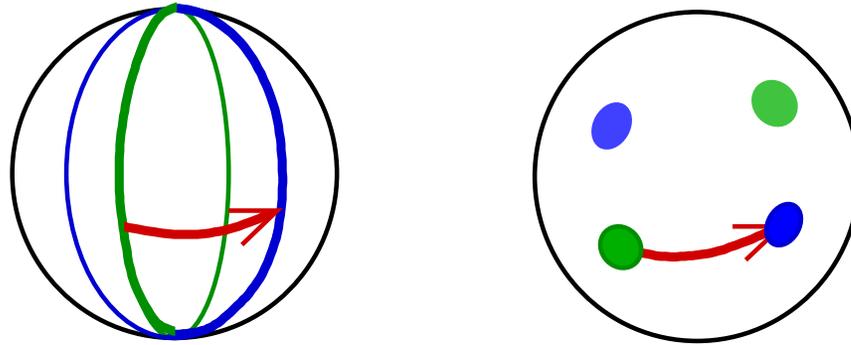


Head to tail for rotations:

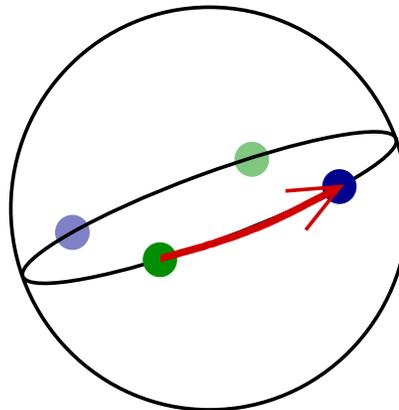


# Rotations of 2-sphere

Biflippers:

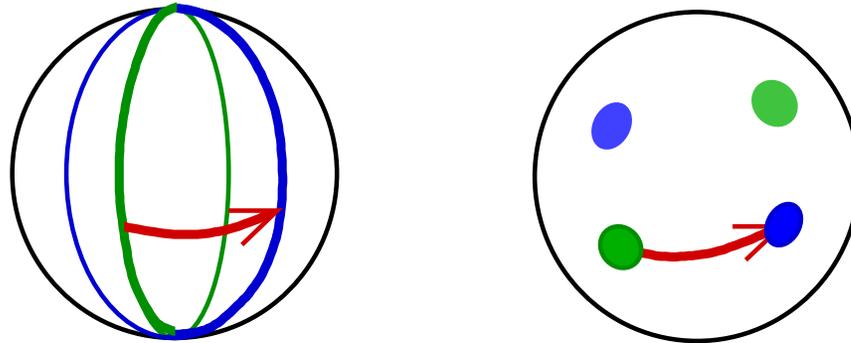


Head to tail for rotations:

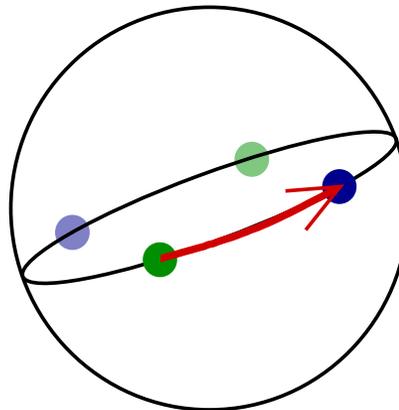


# Rotations of 2-sphere

Biflippers:



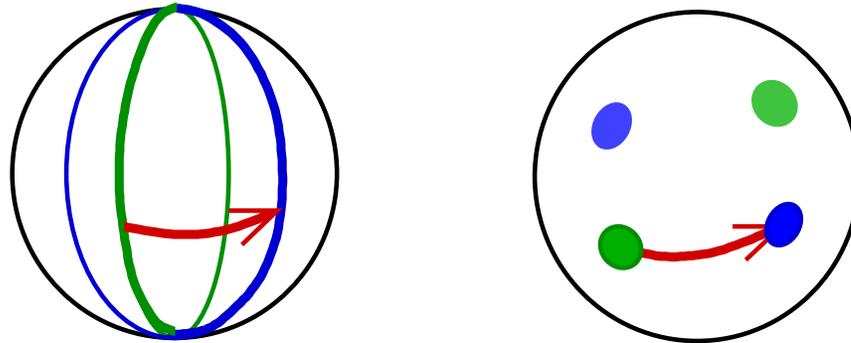
Head to tail for rotations:



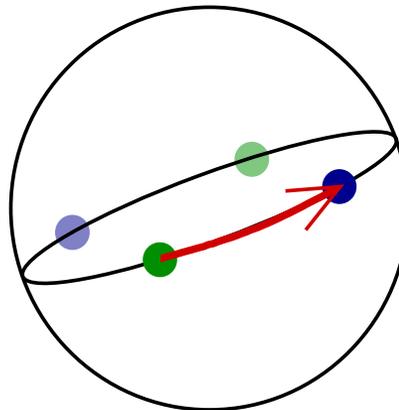
Biflipper vs. angular displacement vector vs. unit quaternion.

# Rotations of 2-sphere

Biflippers:



Head to tail for rotations:



Biflipper vs. angular displacement vector vs. unit quaternion.

The rotation encoded by bilipper  $\overrightarrow{wv}$  is defined by quaternion

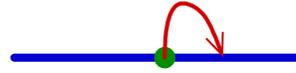
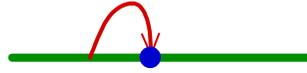
$$vw = v \times w - v \cdot w.$$

# Parade of biflipper

On line:



*translation*



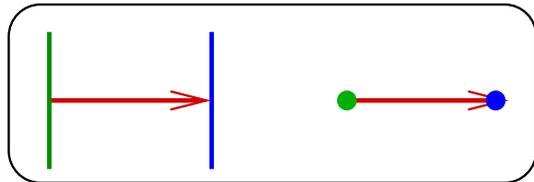
*reflections in points*



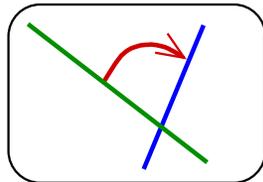
*the identity*

# Parade of biflipper

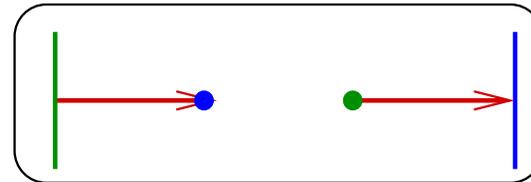
On plane:



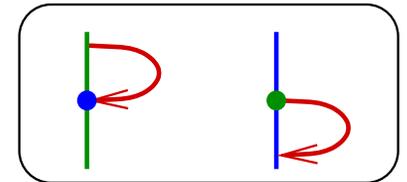
*translations*



*rotation*



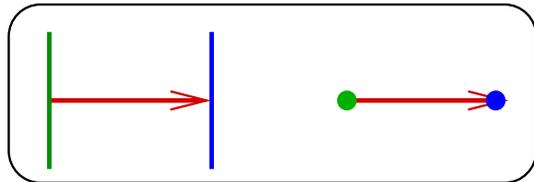
*glide reflections*



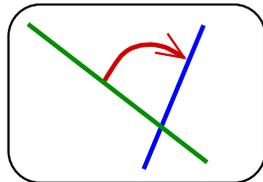
*reflections*

# Parade of biflipper

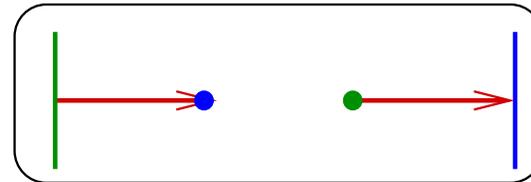
On plane:



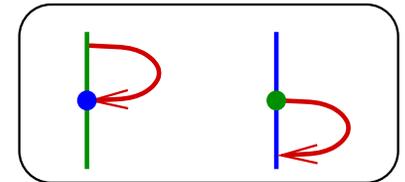
*translations*



*rotation*

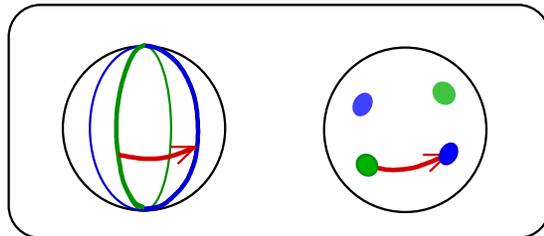


*glide reflections*

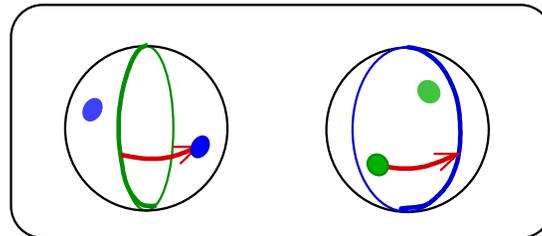


*reflections*

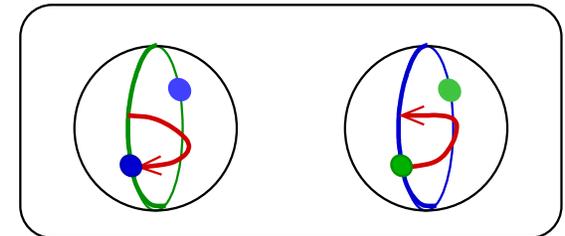
On sphere:



*rotations*



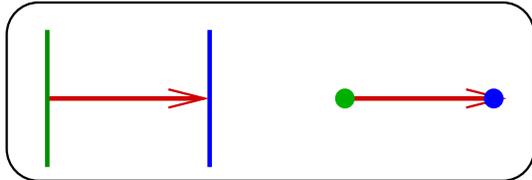
*rotary reflections*



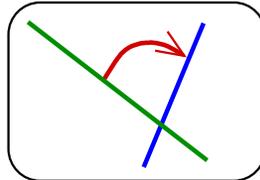
*reflections*

# Parade of biflipper

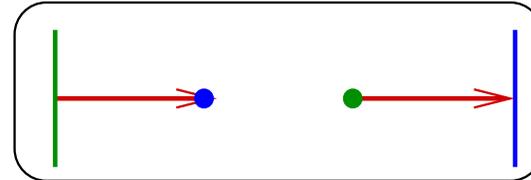
On plane:



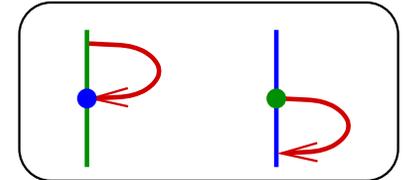
*translations*



*rotation*

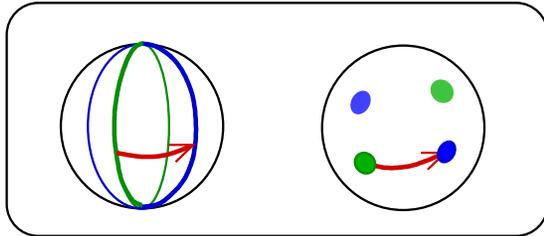


*glide reflections*

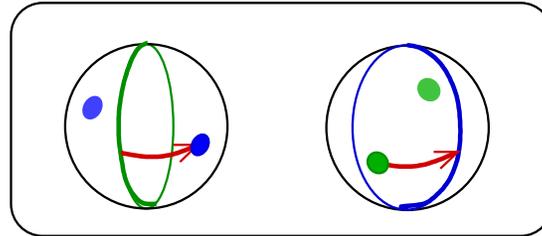


*reflections*

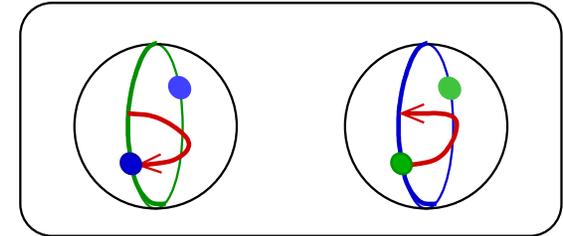
On sphere:



*rotations*

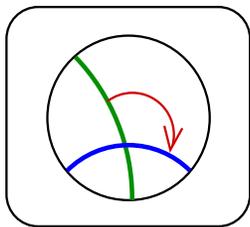


*rotary reflections*

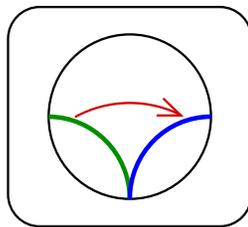


*reflections*

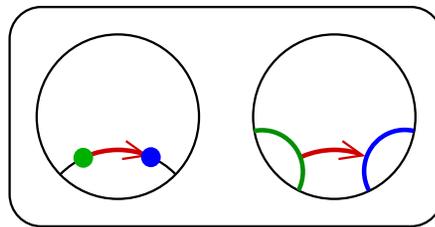
On the hyperbolic plane:



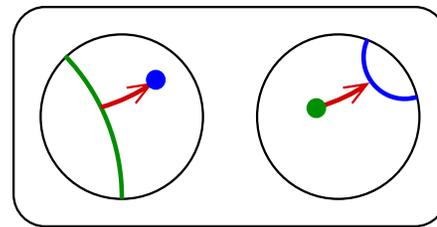
*rotation*



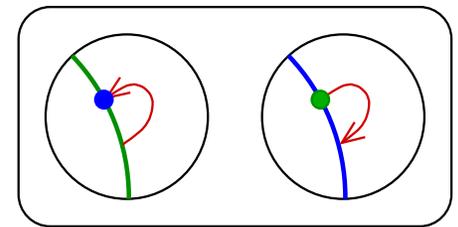
*parallel motion*



*translation*

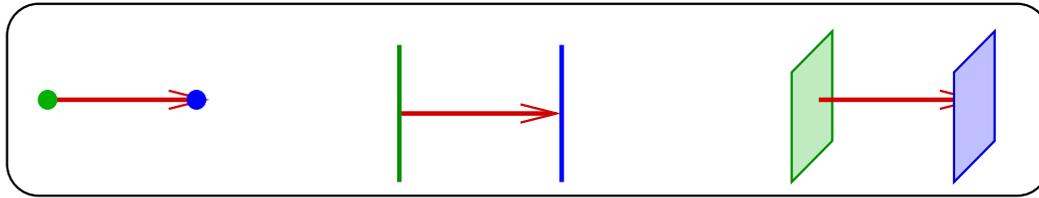


*glide reflections*

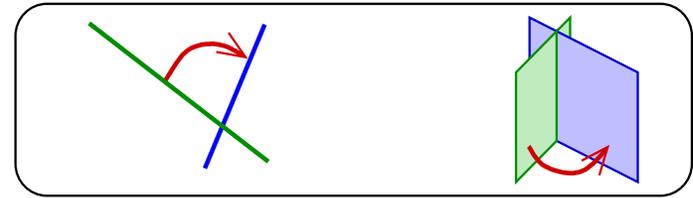


*reflections*

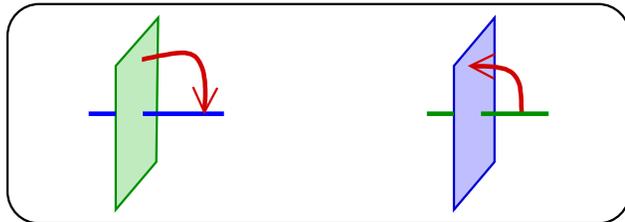
# Biflippers in the 3-space



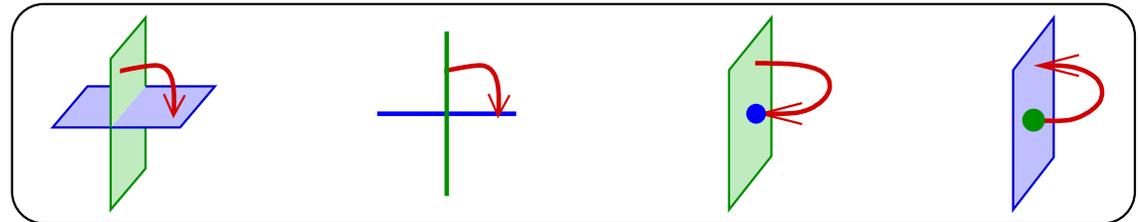
*translations*



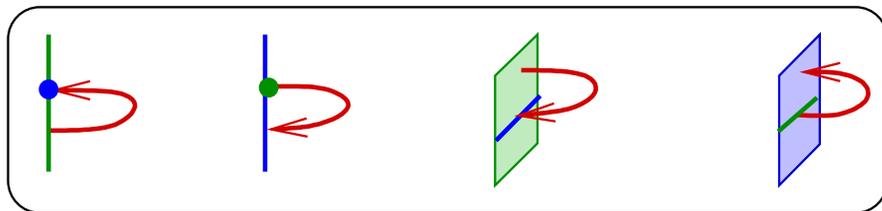
*rotations*



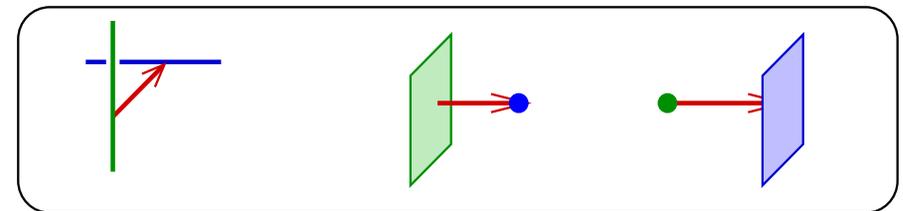
*central symmetries*



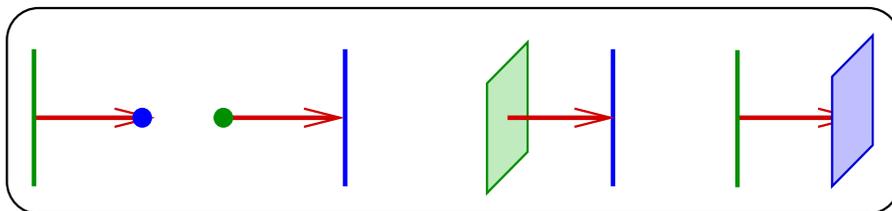
*symmetries about a line (half-turns)*



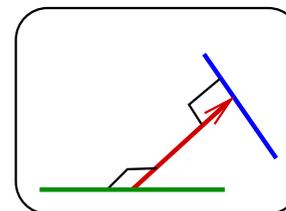
*reflections*



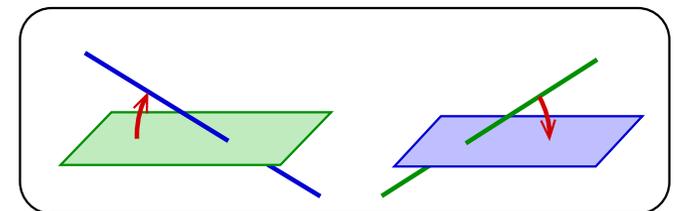
*glide symmetries about a line*



*glide reflections*

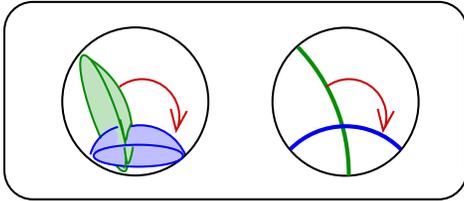


*screw motion*

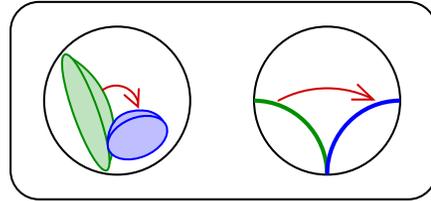


*rotary reflections*

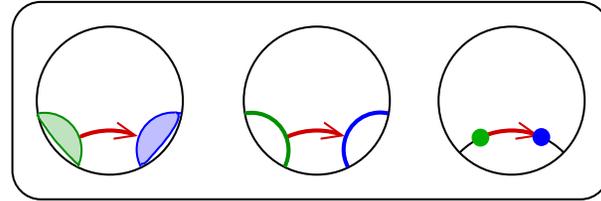
# In hyperbolic 3-space



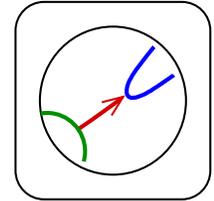
*rotation*



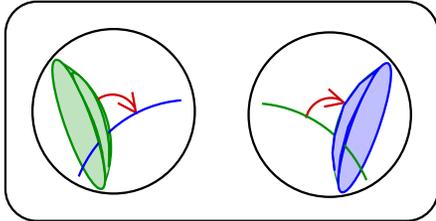
*parallel motion*



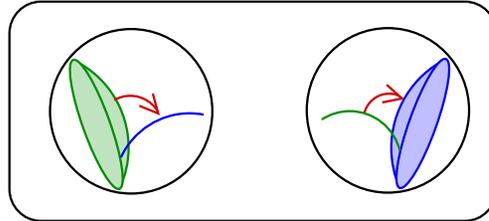
*translation*



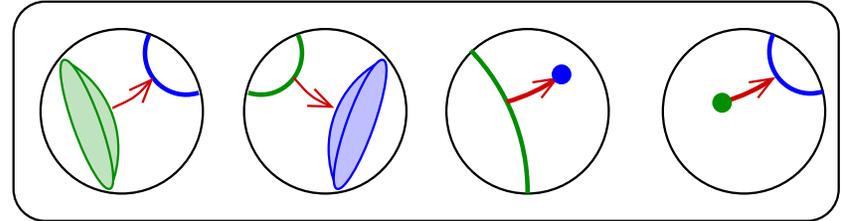
*screw motion*



*rotary reflections*

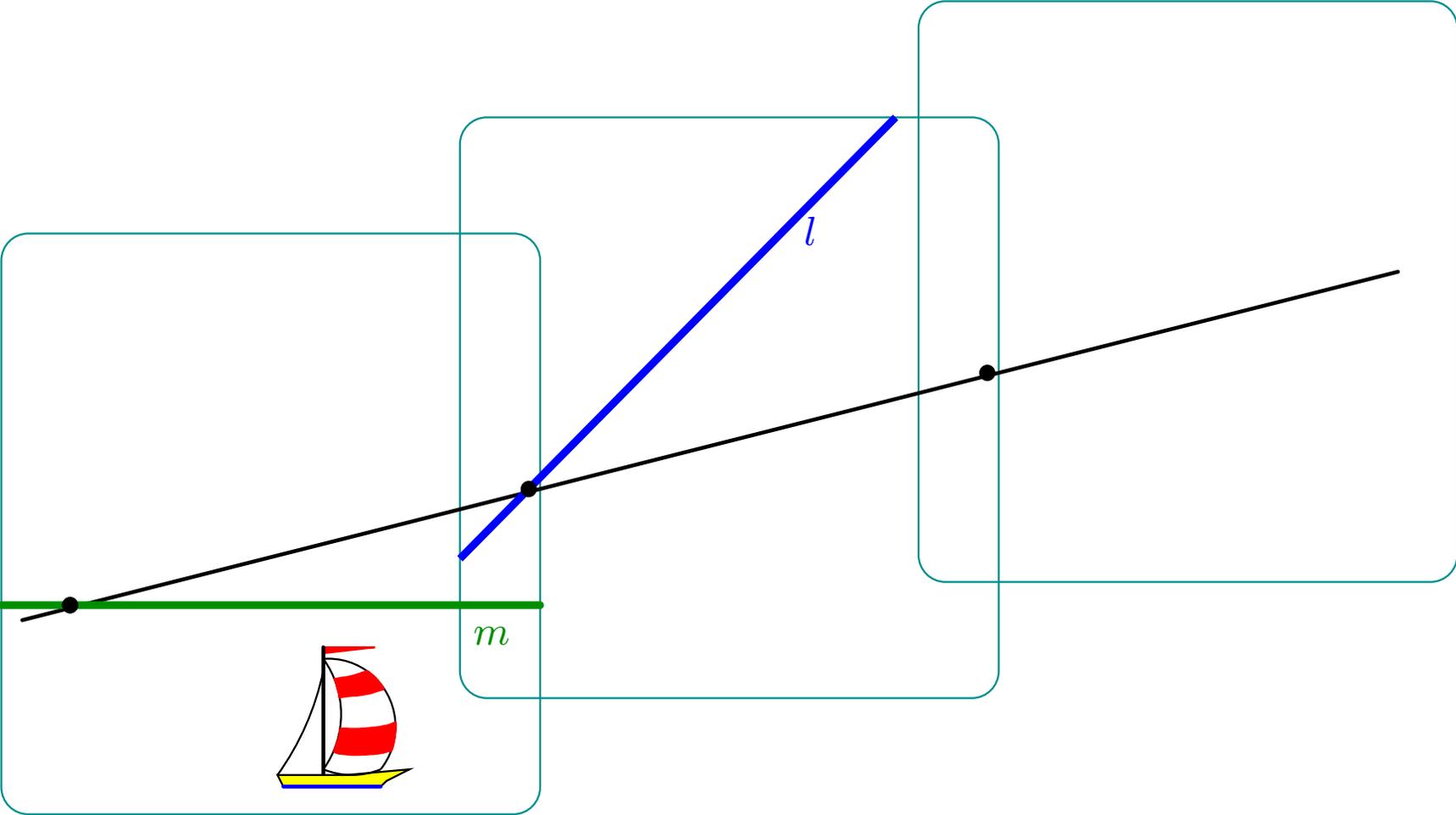


*parallel reflections*

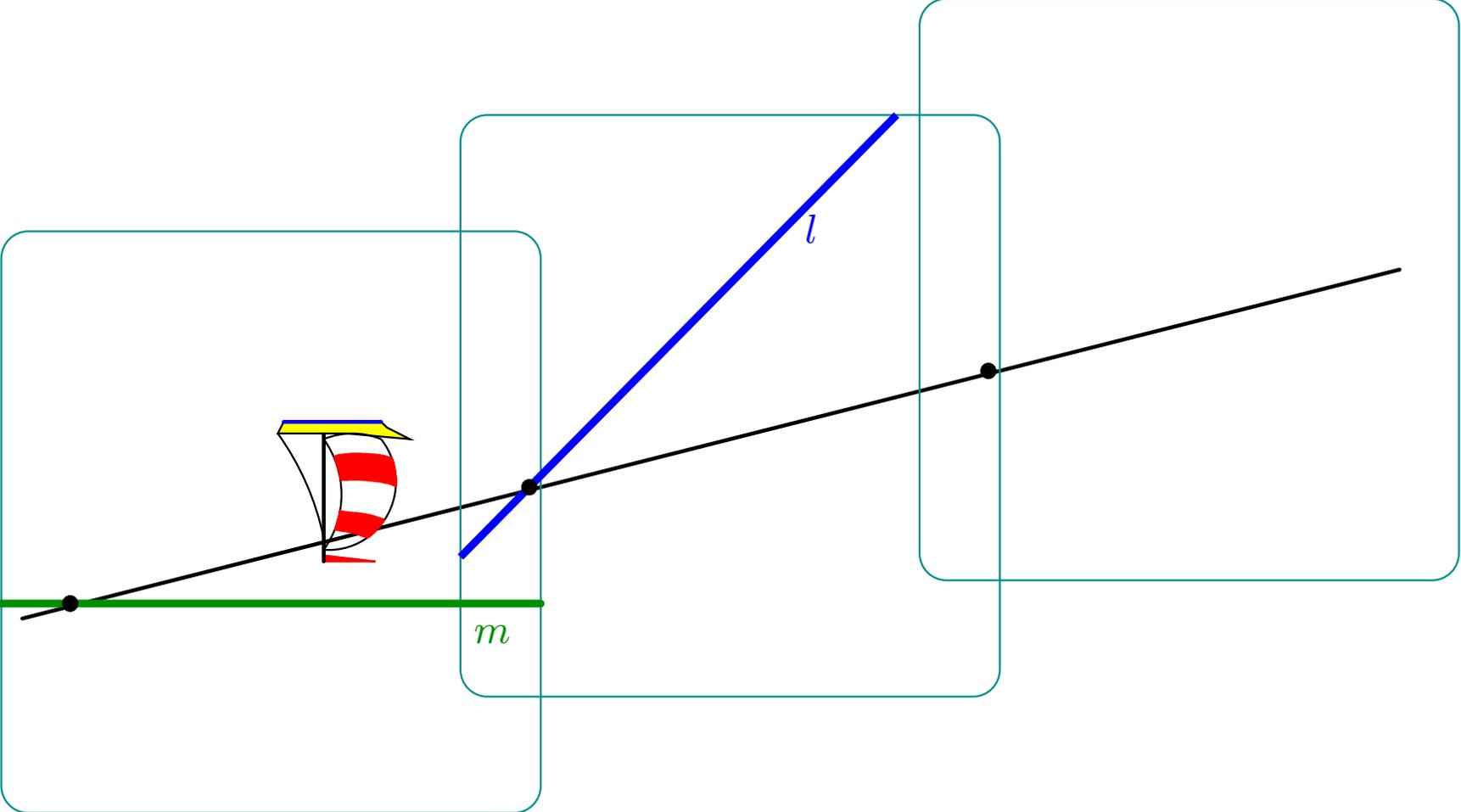


*glide reflections*

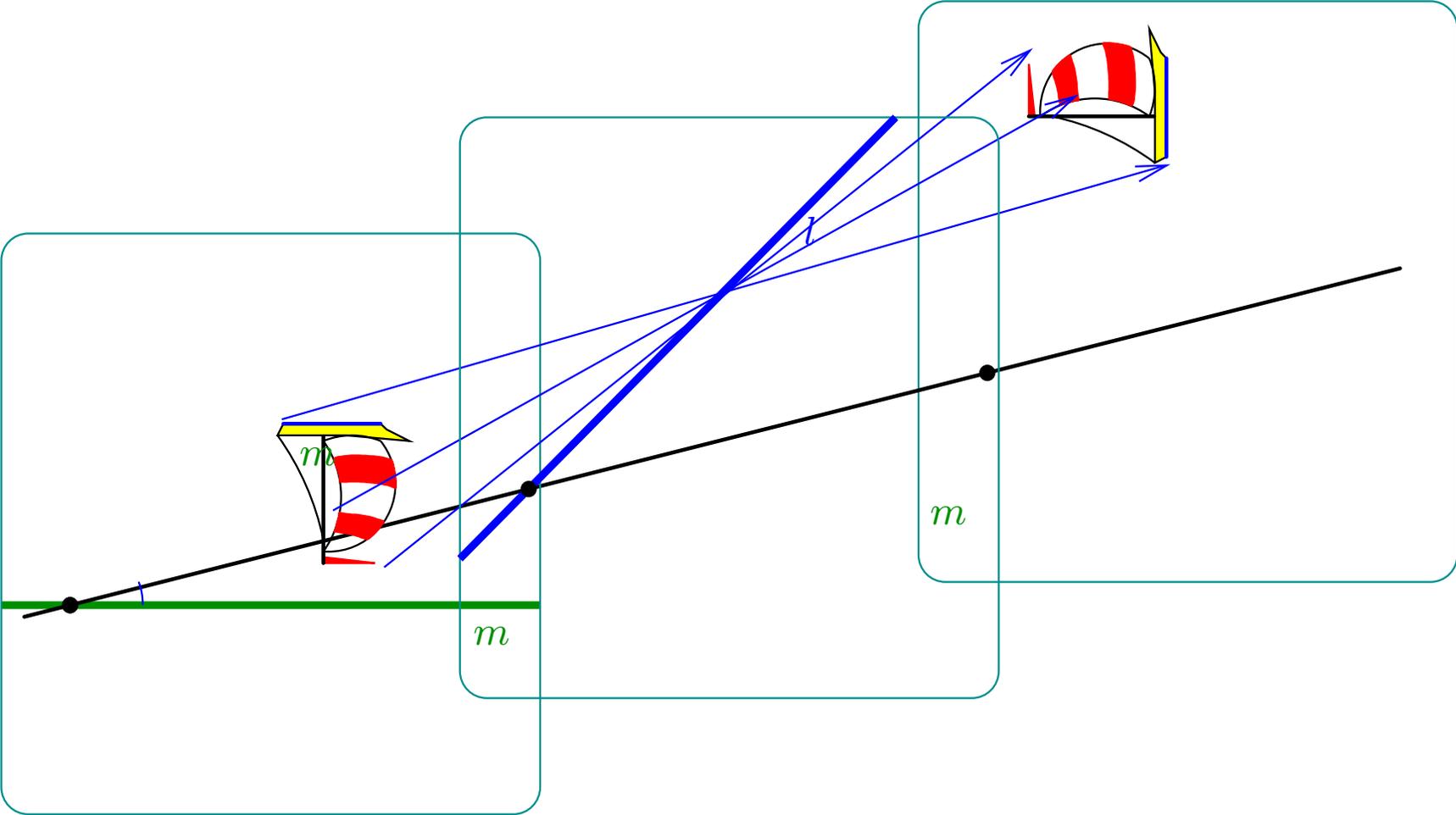
# Screw displacement



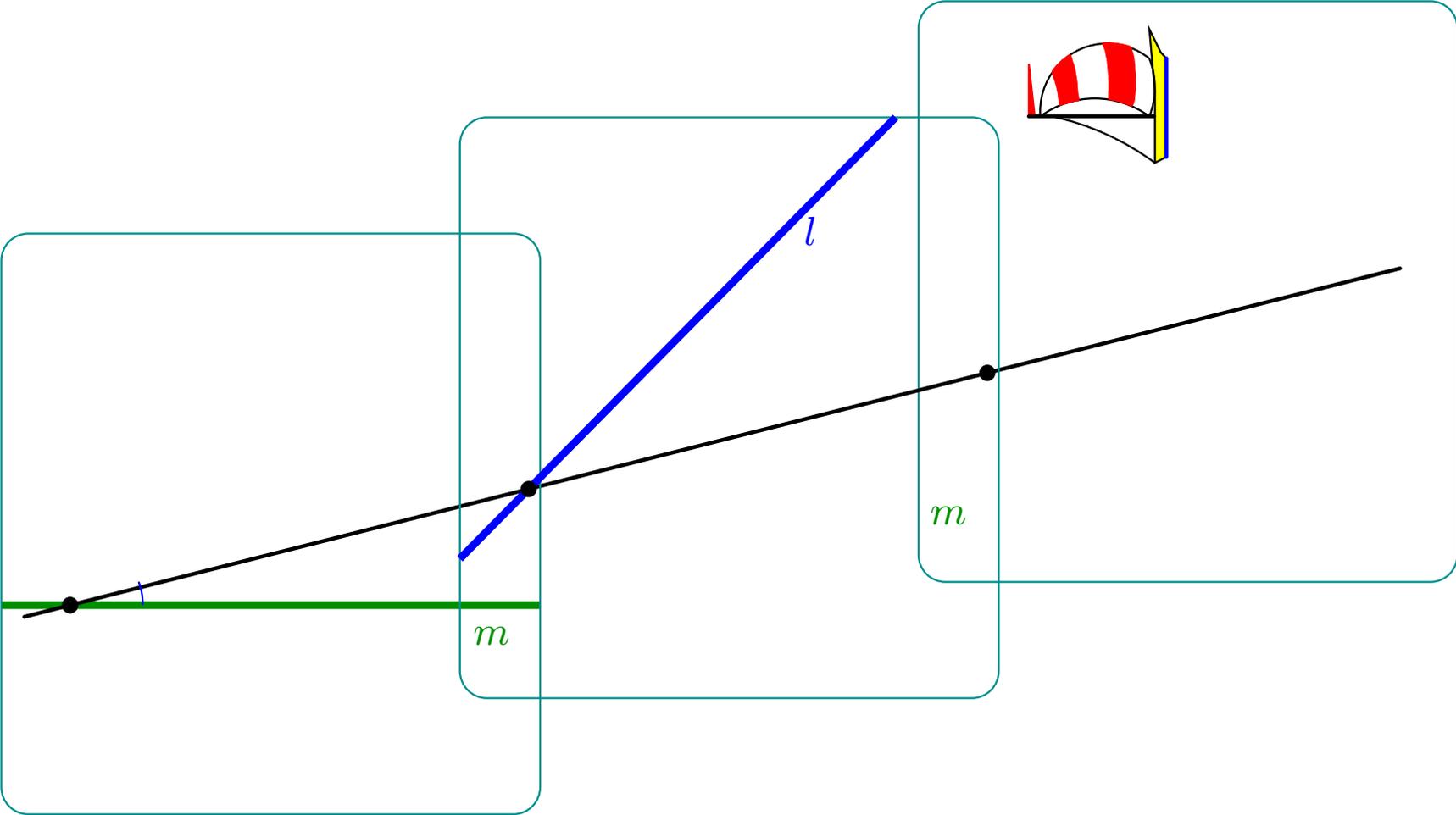
# Screw displacement



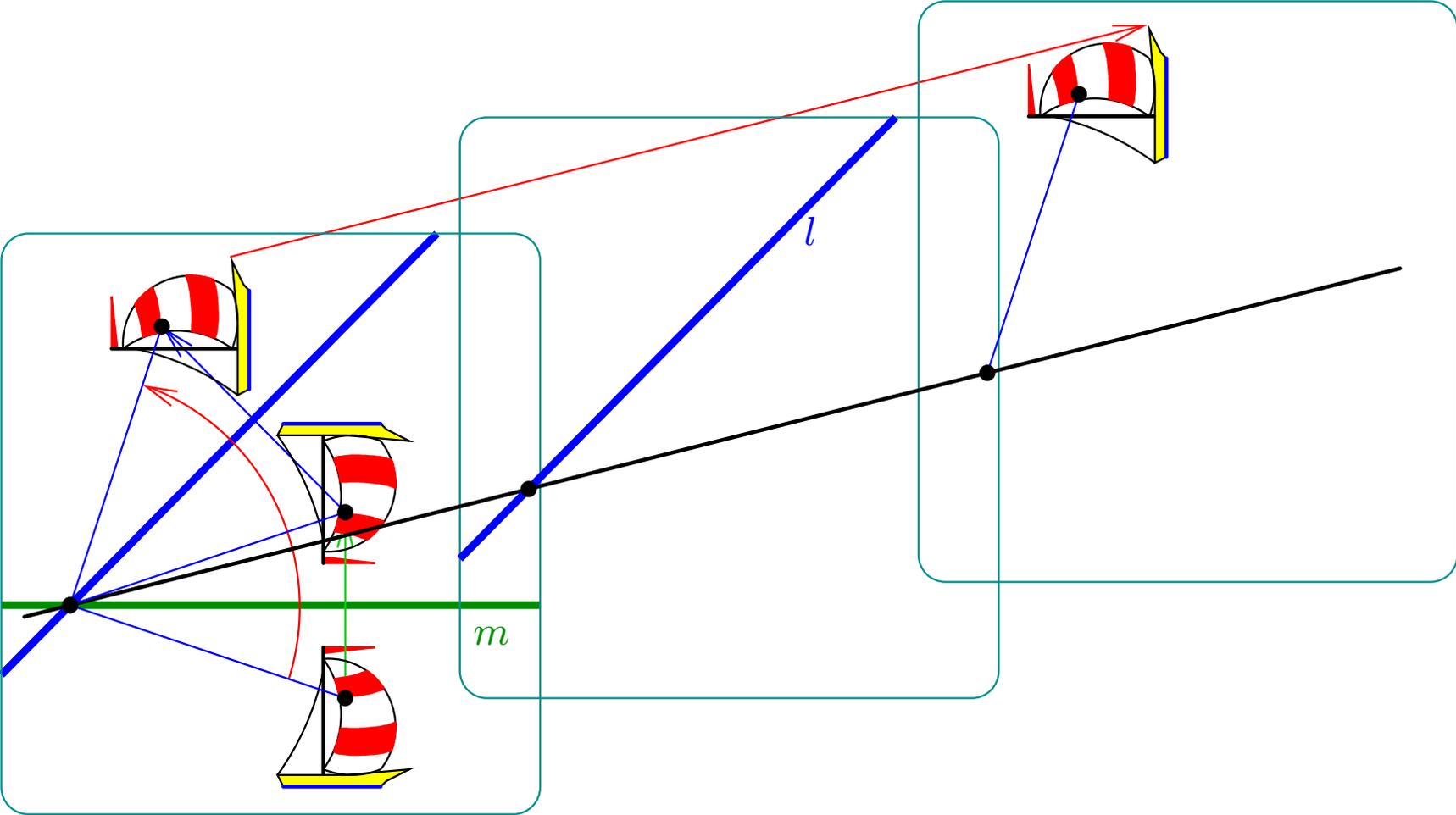
# Screw displacement



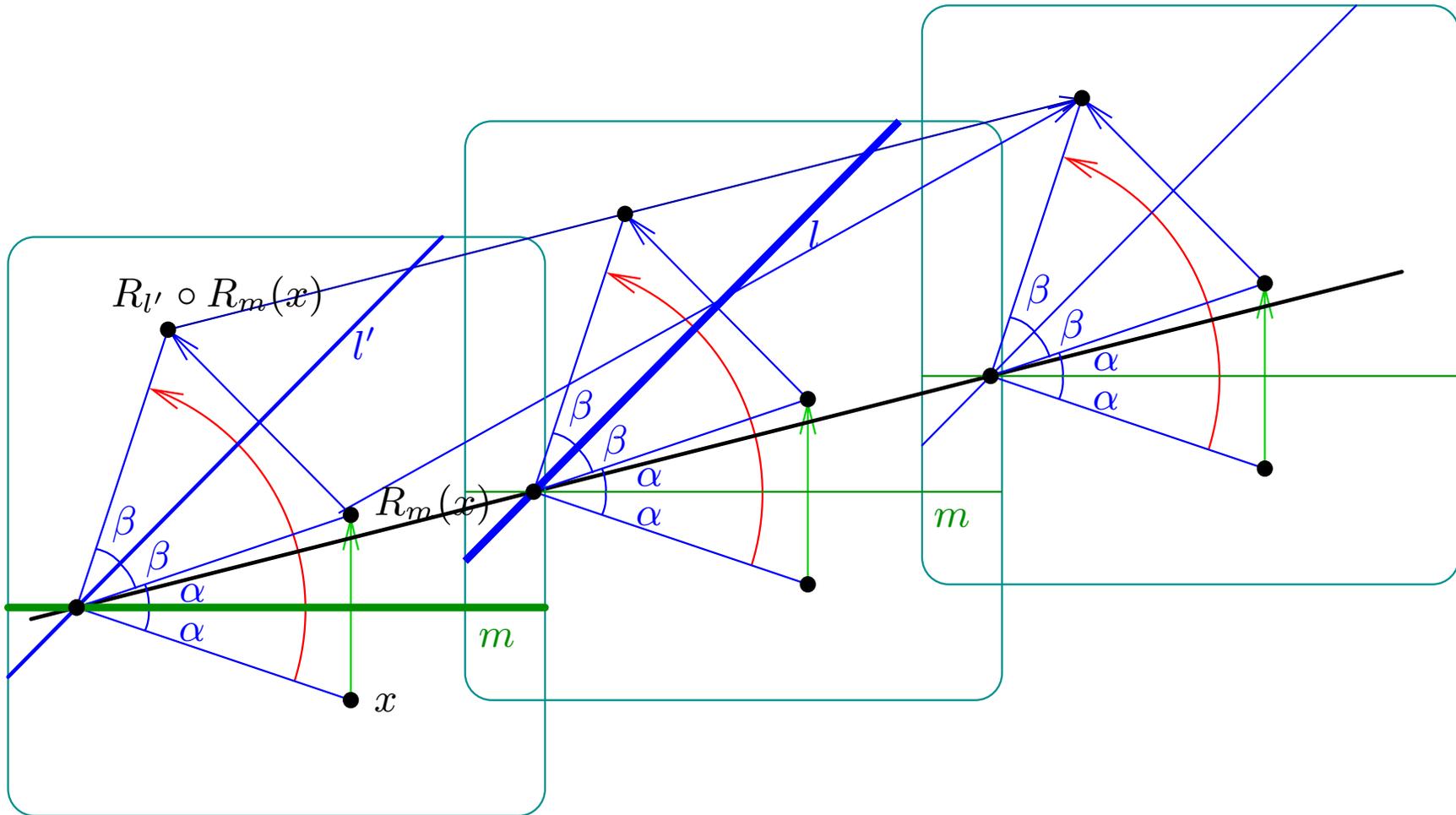
# Screw displacement



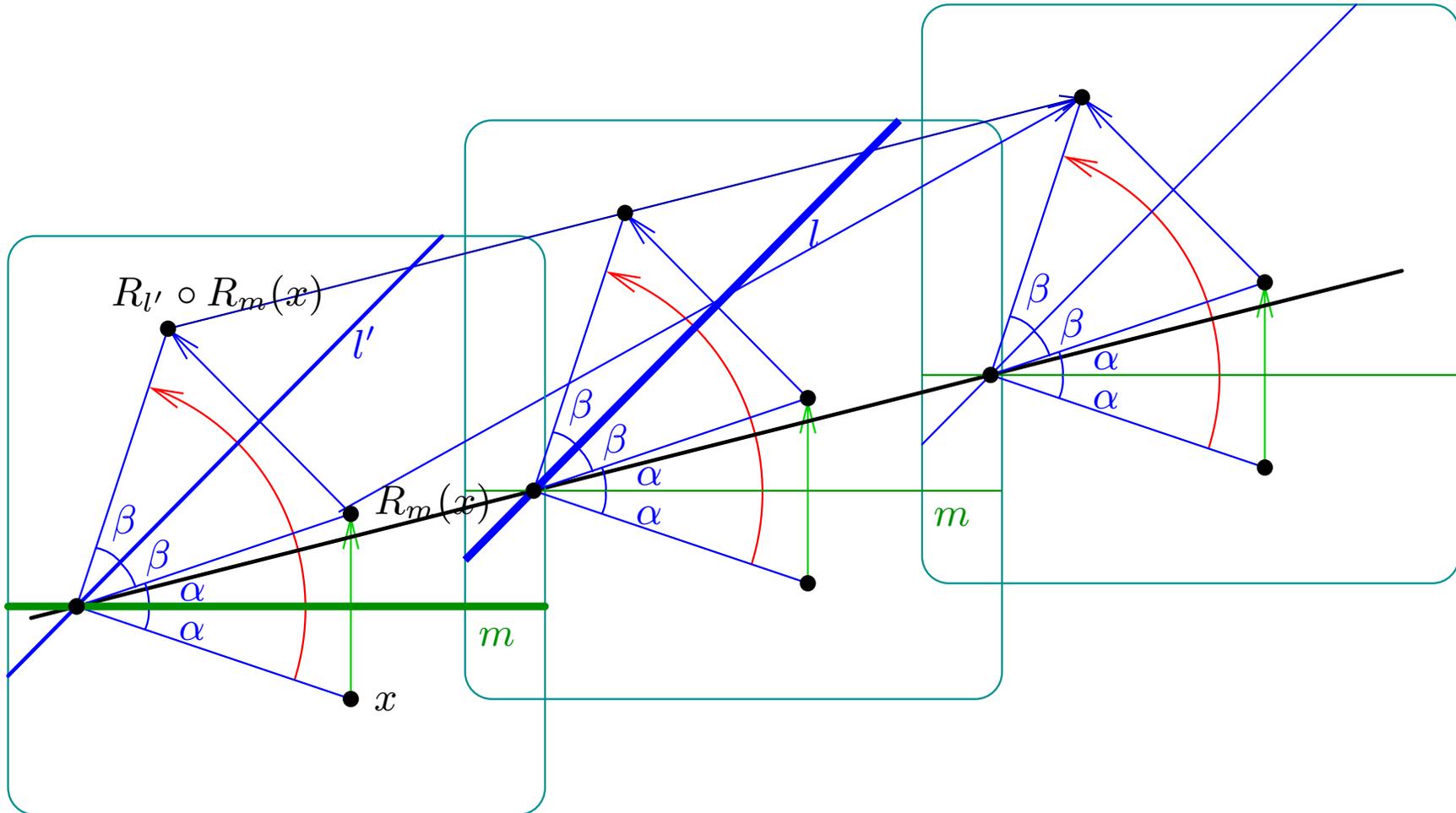
# Screw displacement



# Screw displacement

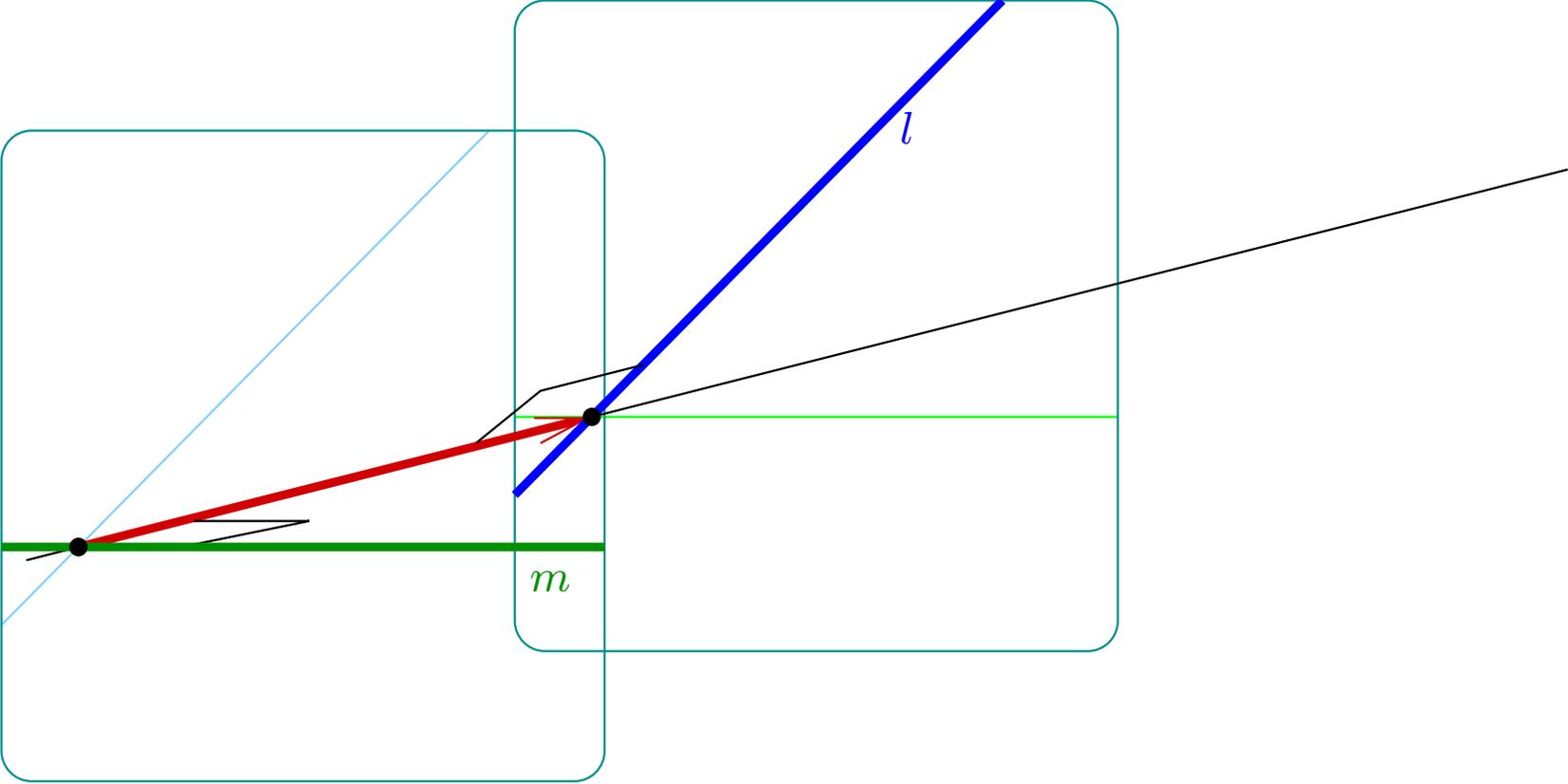


# Screw displacement



A biflipper presenting a screw displacement is an arrow with two perpendicular lines at the end points skew to each other.

# Screw displacement



## Head to tail for screws

Given two screw displacement, present them by biflipper.

## Head to tail for screws

Given two screw displacement, present them by biflipppers.

Find the common perpendicular for the axes of the biflipppers.

## Head to tail for screws

Given two screw displacement, present them by biflipppers.

Find the common perpendicular for the axes of the biflipppers.

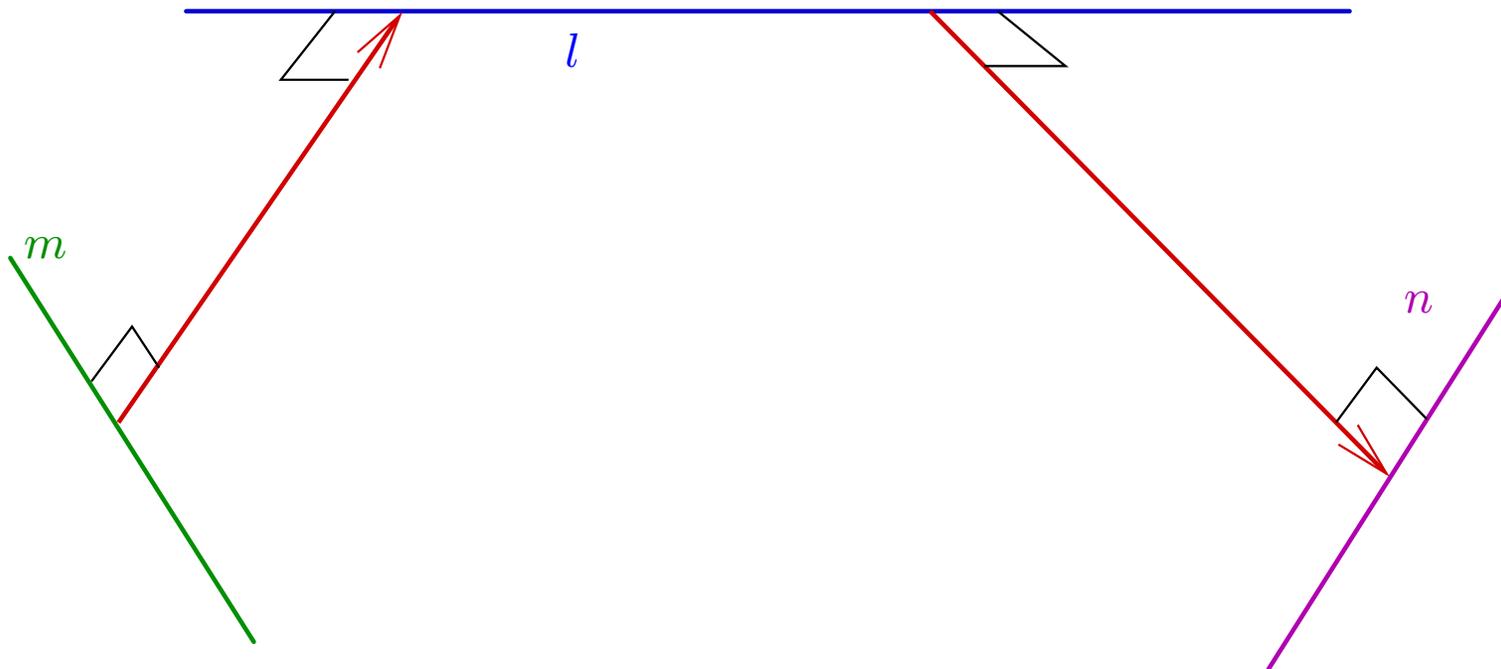
By gliding the biflipppers along their axes and rotating about the axes, make the arrowhead of the first biflippper coinciding with the tail of the second biflippper.

## Head to tail for screws

Given two screw displacement, present them by biflipper.

Find the common perpendicular for the axes of the biflipper.

By gliding the biflipper along their axes and rotating about the axes, make the arrowhead of the first biflipper coinciding with the tail of the second biflipper.

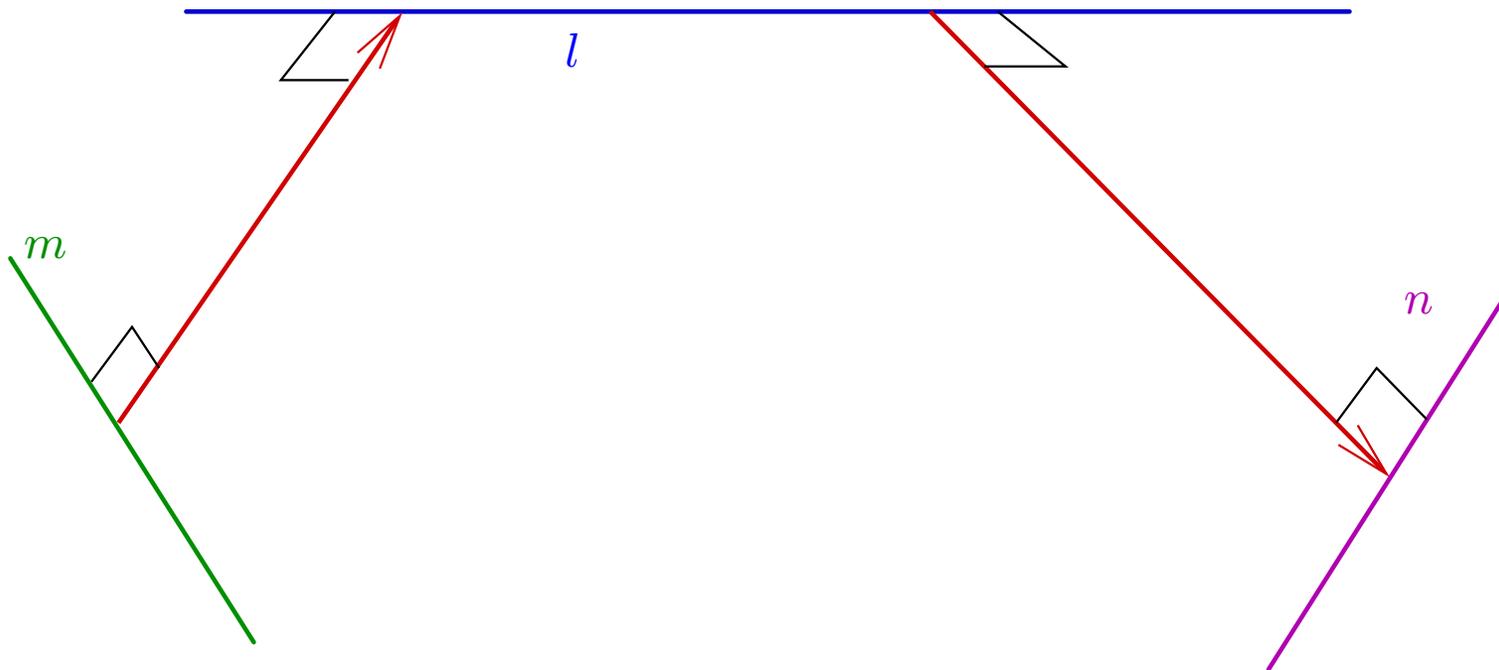


## Head to tail for screws

Given two screw displacement, present them by biflippers.

Find the common perpendicular for the axes of the biflippers.

Find common perpendicular for the tail of the first biflipper and head of the second biflipper. Draw an arrow along it connecting the flippers which are left.

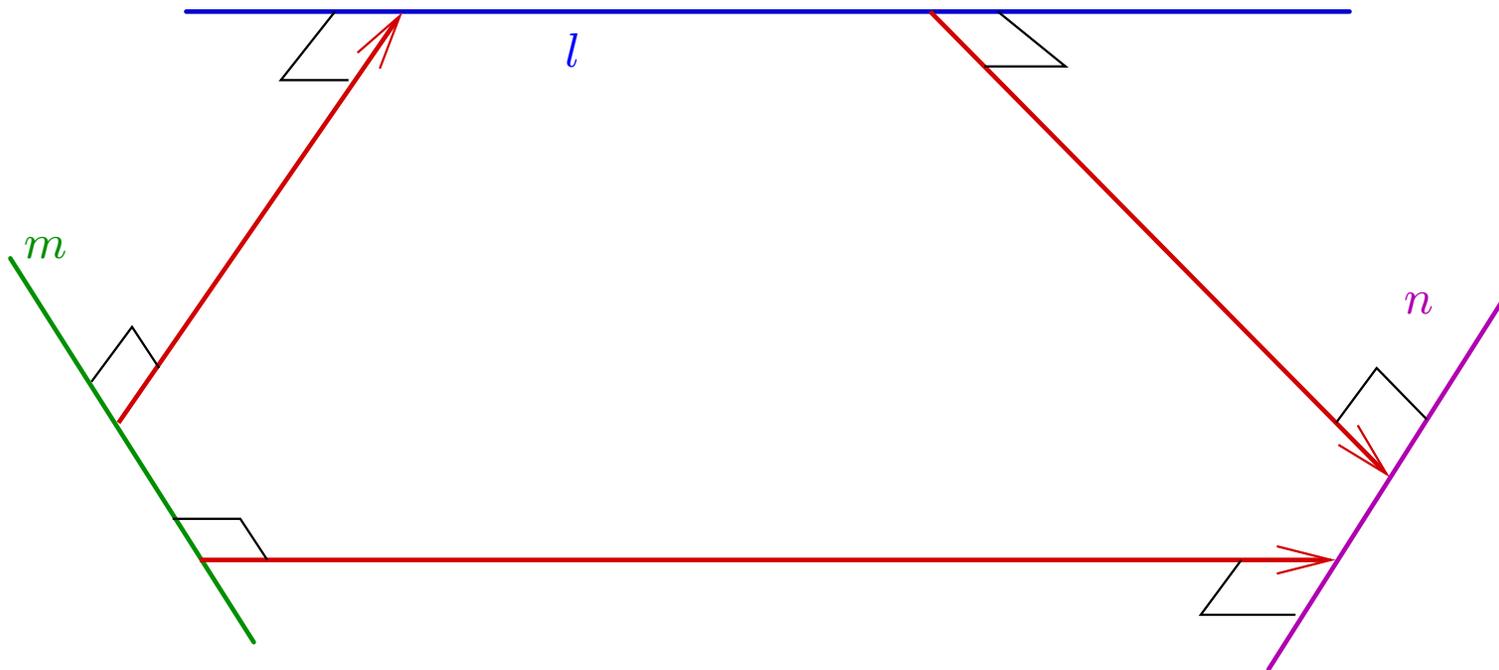


## Head to tail for screws

Given two screw displacement, present them by biflippers.

Find the common perpendicular for the axes of the biflippers.

Find common perpendicular for the tail of the first biflipper and head of the second biflipper. Draw an arrow along it connecting the flippers which are left.

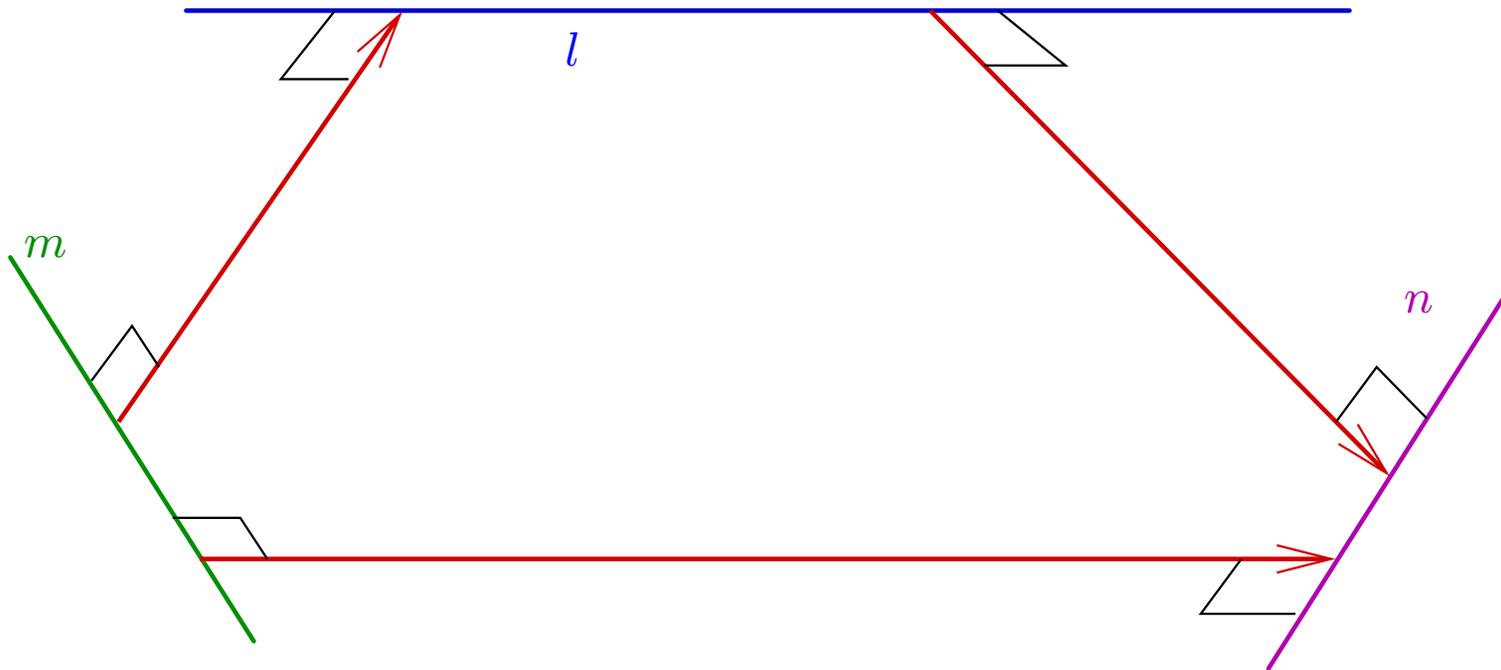


## Head to tail for screws

Given two screw displacement, present them by biflippers.

Find the common perpendicular for the axes of the biflippers.

Find common perpendicular for the tail of the first biflipper and head of the second biflipper. Draw an arrow along it connecting the flippers which are left. Erase old arrows and their common flippers.



## Head to tail for screws

Given two screw displacement, present them by biflippers.

Find the common perpendicular for the axes of the biflippers.

Find common perpendicular for the tail of the first biflipper and head of the second biflipper. Draw an arrow along it connecting the flippers which are left. Erase old arrows and their common flippers.



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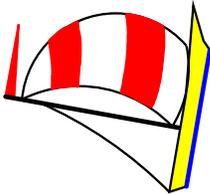
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