

Generalization of Cone-pass and Continued Fraction

Cone-puter

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1. INTRODUCTION

In my previous paper, "Cone-pass" [1], I presented a method for constructing the golden angle by manipulating a circular sheet with slits to create a cone. (Figure 1)

In addition to the "central angle w ", which is a parameter that determines a cone shape, I brought in the concept of "overlap angle w' ". (Figure 2)

In order to consider both the central angle w and the overlap angle w' as real numbers in the $[0, 1]$ interval, let's assume that the circumference is 1, and thus we are dealing with a circular sheet of radius $r = 1/(2\pi)$. The circular sheet is an ideal paper with zero thickness, so no matter how many sheets are stacked on top of each other, there is no increase in thickness.

The central angle and the overlap angle generally do not coincide, as shown in Figure 2. However, if we continue recursively by finding the central angle from a cone with an appropriate overlap angle, creating a cone with the next overlap angle, and then finding an updated central angle, both the central angle and the overlap angle converge to the golden angle $(\tau - 1) = (-1 + \sqrt{5})/2 \approx 222.5^\circ$. I named it the "recursive cone method" and showed in a previous paper that it corresponds exactly to the continued fraction expansion of the golden ratio. [1]

The cone with the golden angle as its central angle was called the "golden cone," and its elevation was composed of a right triangle with $r : r/\tau : \sqrt{(r/\tau)}$. (Figure 3, left) As I noticed after the presentation of the previous paper, this triangle was the same as the so-called "Kepler's triangle" of $\tau : 1 : \sqrt{\tau}$. Kepler said, "There are two treasures in geometry. One is the Pythagorean theorem and the other is the golden ratio. The first may be compared to a gold nugget, and the second may be called a precious jewel." This triangle is truly a combination of gold and jewels.

Kepler's triangle can also be seen in the elevation of the Pyramids of Giza (Fig. 3, middle). For a long time, I did not think this fact was very important. Since a right triangle with $\tau : 1 : \sqrt{\tau}$ can be easily constructed with a ruler and compass, it is no wonder that it appears everywhere in architecture. It's like if you draw a circle with a compass, you'll find the transcendental number π there.

However, as I myself wrote in my previous paper, "This triangle is fascinating and many other functions are likely to be discovered," I now believe that the use of Kepler's triangle in the pyramids was probably not an accident. It is a fact that this right triangle was constructed by the Egyptians thousands of years before Kepler, and the Egyptians of that time must have regarded this triangle as special. In fact, it may have had some function in the construction and mechanics of the pyramid, just as the geometric function of the golden angle was found to be constructed from Kepler's triangle.

In this paper, I attempt to generalize the recursive cone method. The question is as follows.
What angles other than the golden angle can be determined by the recursive cone method?

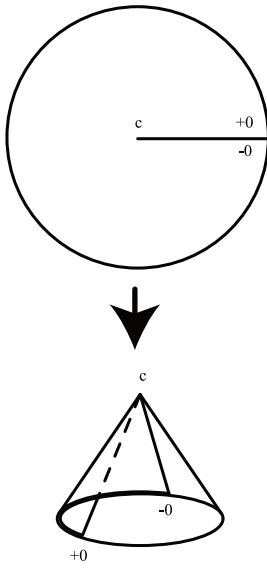
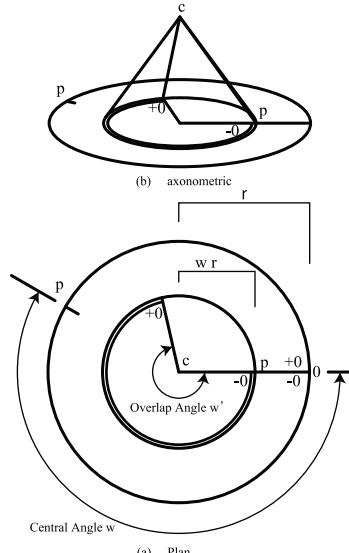
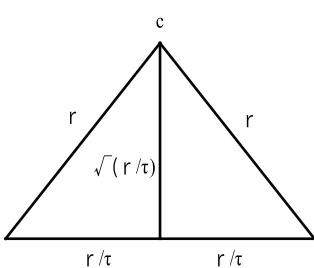
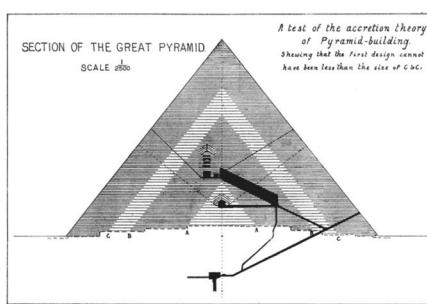


Fig.1

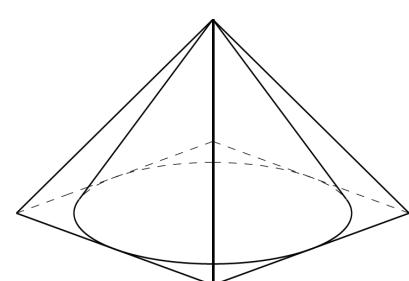
Make a cone from a circular sheet with a slit in it.

Fig. 2
Central Angle and Overlap Angle

The elevation of the golden cone is composed of Kepler's triangles



Petrie, W.M.F., The Pyramids and Temples of Gizeh, London 1883



The golden cone inscribed in the pyramid

Fig. 3
Pyramid and Kepler's triangle

3. Construct an arbitrary regular N -gon / arbitrary rational angle

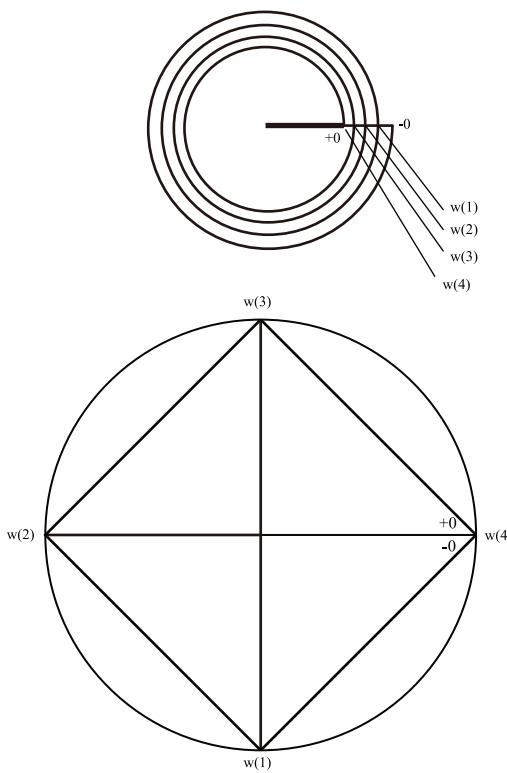


Fig. 8
Construction of a regular N -gon

Let us first consider the special case where the overlap degree $1/w$ is exactly integer N , as shown in Figure 8 above. The fraction angle $(1-aw) = 0$, and -0 and $+0$ make conjunction again. $a=N$ and the overlap angle $w' = 0$. As an example, Figure 8 on the left shows the case where $w(1)=1/4$ and $1/w=N=a=4$.

Mark all of the cone surfaces that match with the -0 end, return to the circular sheet, and connect the marked points on the circumference with lines in order to form a regular N -gon (Fig. 8, bottom). This is also self-evident. In other words, if you allow the cone method as a constructing method, you can construct any regular N -gon in a single operation.

Naturally, angles of rational numbers with N as the denominator can also be constructed. To find the angle of a rational number b/N , make a cone with exactly N overlap degree, and mark the b th central angle $w(b)$.

You can construct a regular pentagon with just a ruler and compass, but the next constructable regular polygons will have to wait until a regular 17-gon. The fact was discovered by Gauss.

Later, it was known that "among regular N -gons where N is prime, such a construction is possible only if N is Fermat prime."

In addition, Gauss showed that "a necessary and sufficient condition for a regular N -gon to be constructable is in the form of a product of Fermat primes differing in power from N by 2."

You can't even construct a regular 9-gon with a ruler and compass.

Origami allows trisecting the corners, so you can fold a regular 9-gon exactly. But even origami cannot fold arbitrary regular polygons.

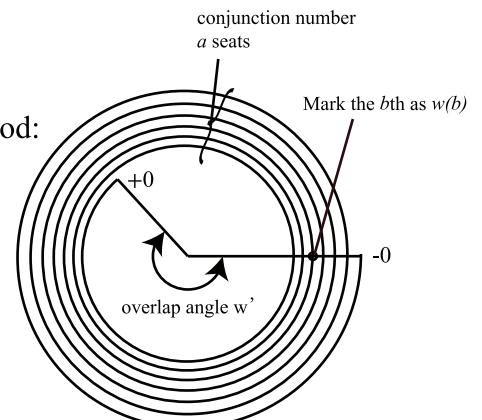


Fig. 9
General Recursive Cone Method
Schematic diagram of the $\{a,b\}$ operation
Example of $\{6,4\}$ operation

4. Constructing irrational angles with the general recursive cone method: $\{a,b\}$ operation

Next, let's consider the case where the overlap degree $1/w$ is not an integer.

$1/w > a$, resulting in an overlap angle. (Figure 9)

The equation to derive the central angle from the overlap angle is the inverse function of equation (1).

$$w=1/(a+w') \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \dots \quad (2)$$

This is the so-called 1st central angle $w(1)$.

Therefore, after the second central angle are as follows.

$$\text{2nd central angle } w(2)=2/(a+w')$$

$$\text{3rd central angle } w(3)=3/(a+w')$$

•

•

$$\text{ath central angle } w(a)=a/(a+w')$$

In general, the b th central angle is expressed as $w(b)=b/(a+w')$. (where b is an integer. $1 \leq b \leq a$)

Suppose that we now have a cone with an appropriate overlap angle w' and its conjunction number is a . (Figure 9)

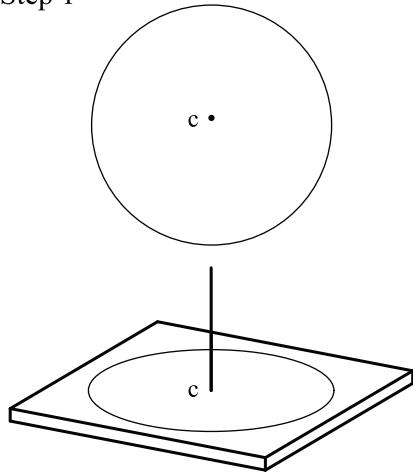
- 1) Mark the b th cone surface matched with -0 .
- 2) When opened in a circle, the angle between the marked point and -0 is the b th central angle. Mark the angle on the surface plate.
- 3) Raise the cone of conjunction number a again, and create a cone of overlap angle that match with the b th central angle. As before, make a new mark on the the b th cone surface matched with -0 .
- 4) When opened in a circle, the angle between the marked point and -0 is the updated b th central angle. Mark the angle on the surface plate.
- 5) Return to the operation in 3) above, and repeat indefinitely thereafter.

In any initial form, if the above recursive operation with integer parameters a and b is repeated, the central angle and overlap angle will converge to the same angle. Let's call this recursive operation the " $\{a,b\}$ operation".

In a previous paper [1] I showed a chart of the recursive cone method for constructing the golden angle. The next page shows the procedure (recipe) for the $\{a,b\}$ operation, updated as a general recursive cone method.

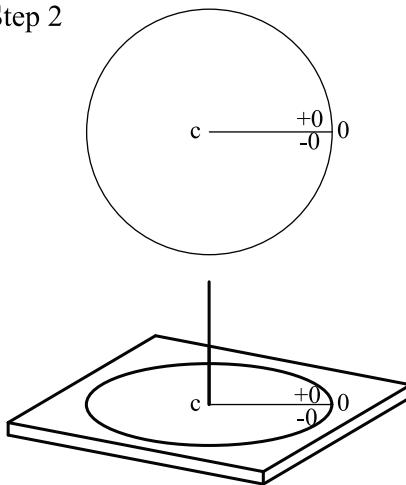
General Recursive Cone Method
Procedure
 $\{a,b\}$ operation

Step 1



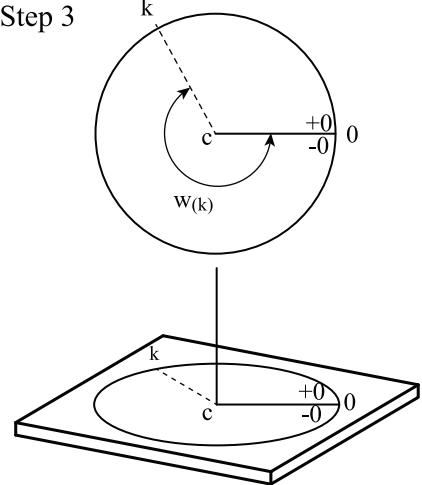
First, prepare a surface plate with a needle that stands vertically.
The thickness of the needle is ideally considered to be zero.
The position of the needle is c , and a circle of radius $r=1/(2\pi)$ is drawn on the surface plate with c as the center.
Since the height of the cone can never be longer than the radius of r , the length of the needle should be at least r .
The top figure is a plan view and the bottom figure is an axonometric.

Step 2



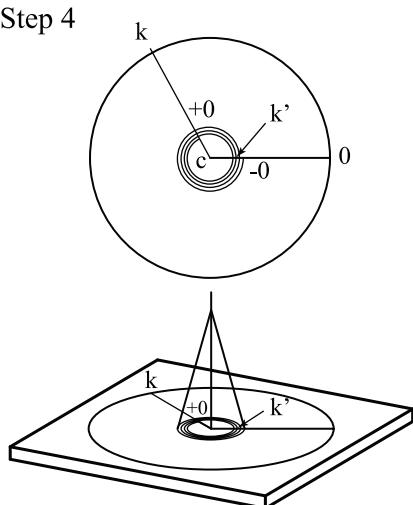
Cut out a circle of radius r from an ideal paper of thickness 0, and make a single slit from the center c toward the circumference. Thread the needle through the center of the paper circle and lay it on the surface plate.
Mark the base point 0 on the circumference of the surface plate located at the edge of the slit.
The edge point belonging to the upper part is $+0$, and the edge point belonging to the lower part is -0 . The base point on the surface plate is assumed to be an unsigned 0 .

Step 3



Mark " k " at an appropriate position on the circumference of the surface plate.
 k is an integer. ($k \geq 1$)
The angle from the base point 0 to k in a clockwise direction is denoted as $w_{(k)}$. ($0 \leq w_{(k)} \leq 1$)

Step 4

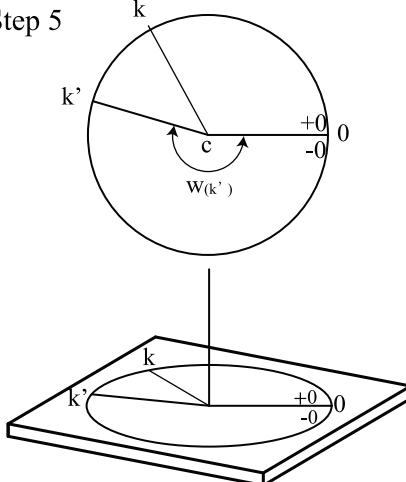


Draw a straight line ck from the center c of the circle on the surface plate to k . Keeping the -0 end of the paper circle aligned on the base point $c0$, slide the $+0$ end clockwise and make a cone such that the $+0$ end lies on the line ck after winding a times.

This means that the overlap angle w' is set to the same angle as central angle $w(k)$.

Then mark k' on the b th cone surface matched with the -0 end.

Step 5

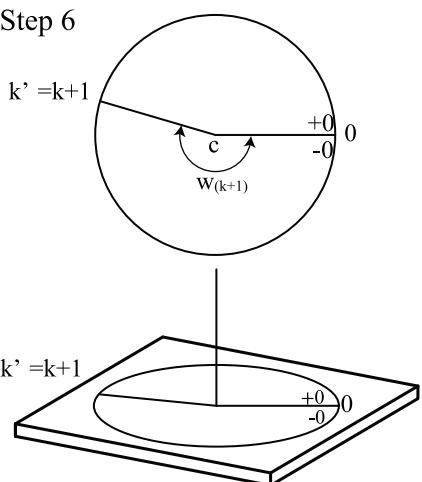


Return the cone to a flat surface again and align the slit with the base point 0 . The angle $w_{(k')}$ from starting point 0 clockwise to k' is as follows.

$$w_{(k')} = b/(a+w_{(k)})$$

This is the b th central angle of the cone.

Step 6



k' is set to $k+1$, then k in Step 3 is updated to the angle of $k+1$, and the same operation is repeated infinitely.

$$w_{(\infty)} \text{ converges to } \frac{-a+\sqrt{a^2+4b}}{2}$$

Conjunction Number <i>a</i>	# <i>b</i> Central Angle <i>b</i>	The solution of $x^2 + ax - b = 0$ $\frac{-a + \sqrt{a^2 + 4b}}{2}$ Convergence Angle	Recurrence Formula $w'_{k+1} = \frac{b}{a + W'_k}$	[\bar{a}]_ <i>b</i> Continued Fraction $\frac{b}{a + \frac{b}{a + \frac{b}{a + \dots}}}$	Regular Continued Fraction $\frac{1}{C_1 + \frac{1}{C_2 + \frac{1}{C_3 + \dots}}}$	Approximate Value	Approximability
1	1	$\frac{-1+\sqrt{5}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{1}{1+W'_k}$	$[\bar{1}]_1$	$[\bar{1}]_1$	0.618033989	16
2	1	$-\sqrt{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{1}{2+W'_k}$	$[\bar{2}]_1$	$[\bar{2}]_1$	0.414213562	9
2	2	$-\sqrt{3}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{2}{2+W'_k}$	$[\bar{2}]_2$	$[\bar{1},\bar{2}]_1$	0.732050808	12
3	1	$\frac{-3+\sqrt{13}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{1}{3+W'_k}$	$[\bar{3}]_1$	$[\bar{3}]_1$	0.302775638	6
3	2	$\frac{-3+\sqrt{17}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{2}{3+W'_k}$	$[\bar{3}]_2$	$[\bar{1},\bar{1},\bar{3}]_1$	0.561552813	11
3	3	$\frac{-3+\sqrt{21}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{3}{3+W'_k}$	$[\bar{3}]_3$	$[\bar{1},\bar{3}]_1$	0.791287847	10
4	1	$-2+\sqrt{5}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{1}{4+W'_k}$	$[\bar{4}]_1$	$[\bar{4}]_1$	0.236067977	5
4	2	$-2+\sqrt{6}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{2}{4+W'_k}$	$[\bar{4}]_2$	$[\bar{2},\bar{4}]_1$	0.449489743	7
4	3	$-2+\sqrt{7}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{3}{4+W'_k}$	$[\bar{4}]_3$	$[\bar{1},\bar{1},\bar{1},\bar{4}]_1$	0.645751311	11
4	4	$-2+\sqrt{8}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{4}{4+W'_k}$	$[\bar{4}]_4$	$[\bar{1},\bar{4}]_1$	0.828427125	9
5	1	$\frac{-5+\sqrt{29}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{1}{5+W'_k}$	$[\bar{5}]_1$	$[\bar{5}]_1$	0.192582404	4
5	2	$\frac{-5+\sqrt{33}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{2}{5+W'_k}$	$[\bar{5}]_2$	$[\bar{2},\bar{1},\bar{2},\bar{5}]_1$	0.372281323	8
5	3	$\frac{-5+\sqrt{37}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{3}{5+W'_k}$	$[\bar{5}]_3$	$[\bar{1},\bar{1},\bar{5}]_1$	0.541381265	10
5	4	$\frac{-5+\sqrt{41}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{4}{5+W'_k}$	$[\bar{5}]_4$	$[\bar{1},\bar{2},\bar{2},\bar{1},\bar{5}]_1$	0.701562119	9
5	5	$\frac{-5+\sqrt{45}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{5}{5+W'_k}$	$[\bar{5}]_5$	$[\bar{1},\bar{5}]_1$	0.854101966	8
6	1	$-3+\sqrt{10}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{1}{6+W'_k}$	$[\bar{6}]_1$	$[\bar{6}]_1$	0.16227766	4
6	2	$-3+\sqrt{11}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{2}{6+W'_k}$	$[\bar{6}]_2$	$[\bar{3},\bar{6}]_1$	0.31662479	5
6	3	$-3+\sqrt{12}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{3}{6+W'_k}$	$[\bar{6}]_3$	$[\bar{2},\bar{6}]_1$	0.464101615	6
6	4	$-3+\sqrt{13}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{4}{6+W'_k}$	$[\bar{6}]_4$	$[\bar{1},\bar{1},\bar{1},\bar{1},\bar{6}]_1$	0.605551275	11
6	5	$-3+\sqrt{14}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{5}{6+W'_k}$	$[\bar{6}]_5$	$[\bar{1},\bar{2},\bar{1},\bar{6}]_1$	0.741657387	10
6	6	$-3+\sqrt{15}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{6}{6+W'_k}$	$[\bar{6}]_6$	$[\bar{1},\bar{6}]_1$	0.872983346	7
7	1	$\frac{-7+\sqrt{53}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{1}{7+W'_k}$	$[\bar{7}]_1$	$[\bar{7}]_1$	0.140054945	4
7	2	$\frac{-7+\sqrt{57}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{2}{7+W'_k}$	$[\bar{7}]_2$	$[\bar{3},\bar{1},\bar{1},\bar{1},\bar{3},\bar{7}]_1$	0.274917218	9
7	3	$\frac{-7+\sqrt{61}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{3}{7+W'_k}$	$[\bar{7}]_3$	$[\bar{2},\bar{2},\bar{7}]_1$	0.405124838	6
7	4	$\frac{-7+\sqrt{65}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{4}{7+W'_k}$	$[\bar{7}]_4$	$[\bar{1},\bar{1},\bar{7}]_1$	0.531128874	8
7	5	$\frac{-7+\sqrt{69}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{5}{7+W'_k}$	$[\bar{7}]_5$	$[\bar{1},\bar{1},\bar{1},\bar{7}]_1$	0.653311931	10
7	6	$\frac{-7+\sqrt{73}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{6}{7+W'_k}$	$[\bar{7}]_6$	$[\bar{1},\bar{3},\bar{2},\bar{1},\bar{1},\bar{2},\bar{3},\bar{1},\bar{7}]_1$	0.772001873	9
7	7	$\frac{-7+\sqrt{77}}{2}$	$w'_{k+1} = \frac{7}{7+W'_k}$	$[\bar{7}]_7$	$[\bar{1},\bar{7}]_1$	0.887482194	7

Table 1
List of recursive cone $\{a,b\}$ operations

The "Approximability" in the rightmost column is a comparison with the difficulty of approximating the Golden angle ($\tau-1$). It is the order of the convergent in the regular continued fraction expansion of each convergence angle, which is comparable to the approximation accuracy of the 16th convergent in the regular continued fraction expansion of the Golden angle.

6. $[\bar{a}]_b$ Continued Fraction and Regular Continued Fraction

The above recursive operations are easy to write as a computer program.

However, it is the focus of this paper to obtain an equivalent solution as the central angle of a cone rather than a computer. Cone -pass or should I call it Cone-puter? This idea did not come from the knowledge of continued fractions, but from the consideration of the geometric figure of a cone, which naturally led to the continued fraction expansion.

The simplicity of $[\bar{a}]_b$ continued fraction is the simplicity of cone. Its convergence is more than that of the regular continuous fraction $[C_1, C_2, C_3, \dots, J_1]$.

Nevertheless, regular continued fractions, which are the mainstream in the study of continued fractions, have the great advantage of outputting the best convergents that are already irreducible, even though the procedure is somewhat more complicated.

I can't find a good way to convert a b -continued fraction with $b > 1$ into a regular continued fraction. Wikipedia "Generalized Continued Fraction" shows how to convert the partial numerator to 1, but in that case, the partial denominator is not always an integer, so it is not a conversion to a regular continued fraction.

In the end, a good way to convert $[\bar{a}]_b$ continued fractions into regular continued fraction would be to start with an initial value of x_0 of 0 in the recurrence formula in (6), repeat the recursive operation several times to make convergents of enough high order, and then use Euclidean algorithm to make regular continued fractions again. There is no need to proceed with infinite Euclidean algorithm. If the value of the conjunction number a appears in the partial denominator, the regular continued fraction is fixed. The reason for this is that the sequence of partial denominators until the appearance of the conjunction number a repeats itself thereafter.

As a side note, the sequence of partial denominators that precede a is symmetrical (palindromic) [3]. This can be observed in Table 1. This phenomenon is also interesting and awaits geometrical clarification.

Let's illustrate the regular continued fractional transformation with the aforementioned $-9 + \sqrt{83}$.

The first three of the convergents output in $[\bar{18}]_2$ are

The 1st convergent is $1/9$

The 2nd convergent is $18/163$

The 3rd convergent is $163/1476$

Using Euclidean algorithm to expand $163/1476$ into a regular continued fraction is $[9, 18, 9]_1$.

Therefore, the regular continued fraction of $-9 + \sqrt{83}$ is $[\bar{9}, \bar{18}]_1$. The first three convergents output from this regular continued fractions are as follows.

The 1st convergent is $1/9$

The 2nd convergent is $18/163$

The 3rd convergent is $163/1476$

This is consistent with that of $[\bar{18}]_2$.

However, the convergents output by a general $[\bar{a}]_b$ continued fraction are not always consistent with the convergents output by the regular continued fraction converted by the above method.

For example, the case of $\sqrt{7}$ is remarkable. As shown in Table 2, when comparing $[\bar{4}]_3$ and $[\bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{4}]_1$ in a continued fraction of $-2 + \sqrt{7}$, none of the convergents match and convergence is much faster for the $[\bar{4}]_3$ continued fraction.

$$-2 + \sqrt{7} = 0.645751311\dots$$

$[\bar{4}]_3$ continued fraction	Value	Error	$[\bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{4}]_1$ Continued Fraction	Value	Error
$3/4$	0.75	0.1042486889	$1/1$	1	0.3542486889
$12/19$	0.631578947	-0.0141723637	$1/2$	0.5	-0.1457513111
$57/88$	0.647727273	0.0019759617	$2/3$	0.6666666667	0.0209153556
$264/409$	0.645476773	-0.0002745384	$9/14$	0.642857143	-0.0028941682
$299/463$	0.645789474	0.0000381626	$11/17$	0.647058824	0.0013075125
$463/717$	0.645746007	-0.0000053045	$20/31$	0.64516129	-0.0005900207
$494/765$	0.645752048	0.0000007373	$31/48$	0.645833333	0.0000820223

Table 2

Comparison of $[\bar{a}]_b$ continued fraction and regular continued fraction $[\bar{C}_1, \bar{C}_2, \dots, \bar{a}]_1$ of $-2 + \sqrt{7}$

To be able to use the cone method to construct the angle of a convergent calculated from a regular continued fraction. Suppose that its convergent q/p is represented by $[C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k]_1$. The $\{a, b\}$ operation described above was assumed to be repeated infinitely, but in the case of a finite number of operations, let's denote it by $\{a, b\}_i$ with the number of times i . Then the convergent q/p , represented by a continued fractions in $[C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k]_1$, can be constructed by the following sequence of $\{a, b\}_i$ operations.

$$\{C_k, 1\}_1 \quad \{C_{k-1}, 1\}_1 \quad \dots \quad \{C_2, 1\}_1 \quad \{C_1, 1\}_1$$

For example, the fourth convergent $9/14$ in $-2 + \sqrt{7}$ can be constructed using the sequence $\{4, 1\}_1 \quad \{1, 1\}_3$.

Moreover, even for any convergent of regular continuous fraction expansions without circulating partial denominators, such as transcendental numbers, the corresponding angles can be constructed by above cone method.

As noted in Section 3, the rational number q/p can be constructed directly from a cone with exactly p -fold overlap, but it is also valid to use regular continued fractions as above. This is because, although the number of operations is increased, the number of windings is reduced and the accuracy of the construction is practically improved.

