

The Cube of El: From Saturn Myth to Trit Cube

Connecting "About Saturn, the Son of the Sun" (2011) with "From Quaternions to Vacuum.Net" (2026).

1. Two posts, one cube

In 2011, this blog told the story of Saturn. Early traditions called Saturn the Primeval Sun, the son of the Sun, Kronos, Father Time — the god who ruled over the Pole. The Semitic god El was represented by a black cube, and the Kaaba in Mecca, "the Cube of Space", still carries that shape. Pilgrims encircle the black stone seven times, just as the rings of Saturn encircle the centre. The post told this story in the language of myth and number symbolism.

In 2026, this blog told another story. Four theories of the physical world — Maxwell's electromagnetism, Russell's cube of motion, Larson's dimensions of motion, and the Vacuum.Net theory — all rest on one algebra: $Cl(3)$, the Clifford algebra of three-dimensional space. Its skeleton is a cube of 27 cells, built from three axes each holding a three-valued counter: 0, +1 or -1. Of those 27 cells, exactly nine close and remain.

This essay reads the two posts side by side. The myth of 2011 described a cube, a centre, a pole, seven circuits and the number three. The algebra of 2026 counts a cube, a centre, an axis, seven closures and a three-valued register. The claim of this essay is modest but strong: the myth anticipated the structure, and the structure explains why the myth kept returning to the same few images.

2. The Cube of Space is the cube of space

The 2011 post called the Kaaba "the Cube of Space". The name deserves attention. $Cl(3)$ is literally an algebra of space: its eight basis blades are the point, the three lines, the three planes and the volume of three-dimensional space. The trit cube carries all of them, each with its sign, in 27 cells: the centre point, six cells on the axes, twelve in the median planes, eight in the corners.

So the oldest image in the story — a black cube standing for the world — matches the newest: a cube in which the full grammar of space is counted, cell by cell. Both say: to describe the world, take a cube.

3. The magic square and the closure rule

The 2011 post centred on the 3×3 magic square of Saturn, the Lo Shu: nine cells in which every row, every column and every diagonal gives the same sum. A magic square is a closure rule: the cells only "work" together, in balance.

The 2026 essay selects nine cells from the 27 by one rule: a cell closes when its three counters add to zero, counted modulo 3. And those nine closing cells have a further property: adding two closing cells yields a third closing cell. The nine form a group — the arithmetic of a 3×3 grid.

Both pictures hold nine cells that persist by balance. The magic square of Saturn and the closing disc of Cl(3) are two readings of one and the same 3×3 arithmetic.

4. Seven circuits, seven closures

The pilgrims encircle the stone seven times. The rings of Saturn encircle the centre. After seven steps, said the 2011 post, a new level of the cycle begins.

The 2026 essay counts its nine closures in two kinds. Seven of them close *by difference*: each contains a zero, an axis that stays out. Two of them close *by sameness*: all three counters alike, one at each end of the main diagonal — the two poles of the axis.

Seven circuits around the centre, and two ends on the axis: the ritual of 2011 and the count of 2026 draw the same figure. The centre is circled seven times; the axis carries its two directions.

5. Kronos at the pole

The 2011 post quotes the old tradition: Saturn is Kronos, Father Time, and he rules over the Pole — the entrance to the other world.

The 2026 essay assigns exactly two special places in its cube. The centre cell is the scalar, the grade where the reference is kept — and where, in Baylis's algebra of physical space, time itself lives. The axis through the poles carries the pseudoscalar: the two signs that separate right-handed from left-handed, one direction of spiral from the other.

Kronos ruling over the Pole stands, in this reading, on the two places the algebra reserves: time at the centre, the two directions at the ends of the axis. The myth put Father Time at the pole; the algebra puts time in the middle cell and hands the pole to the two directions.

6. Saturn's hexagon: the disc, measured

One echo of the structure is not myth at all. It is measured. Above Saturn's north pole stands a persistent hexagonal cloud pattern, roughly 30,000 kilometres wide, spinning with the planet since its discovery in the Voyager era. At the centre of the hexagon sits a tight polar vortex.

Now look at the closing disc of the 2026 essay: six cells in a regular hexagon around the centre cell, with the axis of the two poles running through it. A hexagon around a pole, a vortex at the centre, one fixed sense of rotation: the closing disc of the trit cube, written in the clouds of the planet that tradition named the ruler of the pole.

7. The two and the three

The 2011 post closed with the numbers: "The only thing you need to Create our Universe is the Tao (0), the One, the Two and the Three." It described two cyclic systems — the torus of the number two, with its seven levels, and the triangle of the number three.

The 2026 cube is built from exactly those counters: one (the axis, present), two (its sign, + or –), three (the trit's values), and zero (the axis that stays out). Their combination, $(1 + 2)^3$, gives the 27 cells. The torus of the old post and the trit of the new post are the same pair: a centre that repeats, and a three-valued choice.

8. What this essay claims

The 2026 essay claims identity: four theories of physics written on one algebra, without remainder. This essay claims less, and it is honest about the difference. The myth of Saturn does not derive $Cl(3)$; it points at it. A cube, a centre, a pole, seven circuits, nine balanced cells, three values: the myth kept circling these images for millennia, in Mecca, in Babylon, in Alexandria and in the Himalaya, without the arithmetic that connects them.

What the trit cube adds is the connection. The cube of El becomes the cube of the 27 cells. The magic square becomes the group of nine closures. The seven circuits become the seven closures by difference. Kronos at the pole becomes time in the scalar cell and the two directions on the axis.

The myth counted first. The algebra counts better. Both count the same thing.

Annotated references

- **Konstapel, J. (2011). "About Saturn, the Son of the Sun." constable.blog, 30 October 2011.** *Why read?* The Saturn tradition: the Primeval Sun, Kronos over the Pole, El's black cube, the Kaaba as Cube of Space, seven circuits, and the 3×3 magic square of Saturn.
- **Konstapel, J. (2026). "From Quaternions to Vacuum.Net: Mapping Four Theories onto $Cl(3)$." constable.blog, 2 October 2026.** *Why read?* The trit cube of 27 cells, the nine closures, the closing disc and the axis — the structure this essay maps the myth onto.
- **Konstapel, J. (2026). "About the Sum of Things." constable.blog.** *Why read?* The Seal of Saturn and the 3×3 magic square: the two cyclic systems of the number two and the number three.