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([jthiel@citytech.cuny.edu](mailto:jthiel@citytech.cuny.edu)), 300 Jay St., Brooklyn, NY 11201. *Subgroups of  $SL_2(\mathbb{Z})$*

*characterized by certain continued fraction representations.*

For positive integers  $u$  and  $v$ , let  $L_u = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ u & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $R_v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & v \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Let  $S_{u,v}$  be the monoid generated by  $L_u$  and  $R_v$ , and  $G_{u,v}$  be the group generated by  $L_u$  and  $R_v$ . In this talk we will show an extension of a characterization of matrices  $M = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$  in  $S_{k,k}$  and  $G_{k,k}$  when  $k \geq 2$  given by Esbelin and Gutan to  $S_{u,v}$  when  $u, v \geq 2$  and  $G_{u,v}$  when  $u, v \geq 3$ . We will present a simple algorithmic way of determining if  $M$  is in  $G_{u,v}$  using a recursive function and the short continued fraction representation of  $b/d$ . (Received September 15, 2020)