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  - Every point has a neighborhood that looks like an open disk.
- Not too complicated: can be covered by finitely many such small neighborhoods.
- Connected.

A surface is a compact connected 2-dimensional manifold without a boundary.

- Locally indistinguishable from the plane.
  - Every point has a neighborhood that looks like an open disk.
- Not too complicated: can be covered by finitely many such small neighborhoods.
- Connected.
- Q: Which of the following spaces are surfaces?
  - sphere
  - torus
  - plane
  - closed disk (circle and its interior)

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#### Observation

If f is a homeomorphism of surfaces, then

- f(simple continuous curve) = simple continuous curve
- f(drawing of G) = drawing of G

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- The cylinder and the twice-twisted band are homeomorphic.
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A <u>net</u> of a surface is a graph drawn in the surface so that every face is homeomorphic to an open disk.

#### Claim

Every surface has a net.

We can

- cut the surface along a net and
- glue it back together from the resulting polygons.





If G is a net and e is incident with two different faces of G, then G - e is a net.

# Corollary

Every surface has a net with only one face. Equivalently, every surface can be obtained by gluing pairs of edges on a single polygon.



Arrows indicate the direction of gluing.

• *A*: Clockwise arrow,  $A^{-1}$ : counterclockwise arrow.  $ABA^{-1}B^{-1}$ :



- $AA^{-1}w$  and w represent the same surface.
- $ABw_1B^{-1}A^{-1}w_2$  and  $Aw_1A^{-1}w_2$  represent the same surface.
- $Aw_1Aw_2$  and  $AAw_2w_1^{-1}$  represent the same surface.



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Q: Two of these expressions represent the same surface; which two?

$$ABA^{-1}B^{-1}$$
,  $ABA^{-1}B$ ,  $AABB$ 

# Does AA represent a surface?



#### Lemma

If  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are nets of the same surface, then

$$|E(G_1)| - |V(G_1)| - |F(G_1)| = |E(G_2)| - |V(G_2)| - |F(G_2)|.$$

WLOG:

- Drawings of G<sub>1</sub> and G<sub>2</sub> intersect in finite number of points (nontrivial!)
- G<sub>1</sub> intersects G<sub>2</sub> only in vertices
  - subdividing edges: both |E| and |V| increase by 1
- $G_1 \subseteq G_2$ 
  - Compare  $G_1$  vs.  $G_1 \cup G_2$  vs.  $G_2$
- G<sub>1</sub> has exactly one face
  - deleting edge between distinct faces: both |E| and |F| decrease by 1

- G': Plane graph obtained by taking
  - polygonal representation corresponding to the net G<sub>1</sub> and
  - the drawing of  $G_2$  in the polygon.



$$\begin{split} |F(G')| &= |F(G_2)| + 1 = |F(G_2)| - |F(G_1)| + 2\\ |E(G')| &= |E(G_2)| + |E(G_1)|\\ |V(G')| &= |V(G_2)| - |V(G_1)| + 2|E(G_1)|\\ 0 &= |E(G')| - |F(G')| - |V(G')| + 2\\ &= (|E(G_2)| - |V(G_2)| - |F(G_2)|)\\ - (|E(G_1)| - |V(G_1)| - |F(G_1)|) \end{split}$$

The Euler genus of a surface with a net G is

$$|E(G)| - |V(G)| - |F(G)| + 2.$$

#### Observation

Let G be a net of a surface  $\Sigma$  with exactly one face.

- If Σ = sphere, then G is a tree, and thus the sphere has Euler genus 0.
- Otherwise, if |V(G)| is minimum possible, then G has minimum degree at least two, and thus Σ has positive Euler genus.

# Example:



4 edges, 1 face, 2 vertices  $\rightarrow$  Euler genus 3.

Q: Determine the Euler genus of the following surface:



Theorem (Generalized Euler formula)

If a graph G is drawn in a surface of Euler genus g, then

$$|\mathsf{E}(\mathsf{G})| \leq |\mathsf{V}(\mathsf{G})| + |\mathsf{F}(\mathsf{G})| + g - 2.$$

# Proof.

### Add edges to G to extend it to a net.



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#### Proof.

Add edges to G to extend it to a net.

## Corollary

If a simple graph G is drawn in a surface of Euler genus g and  $|V(G)| \ge 3$ , then  $|E(G)| \le 3|V(G)| + 3g - 6$ .

#### Proof.

$$2|E(G)| \ge 3|F(G)| \ge 3(|E(G)| - |V(G)| - g + 2)$$

# Corollary

 $K_8$  cannot be drawn in the torus (Euler genus g = 2).

$$|E(G)| = 28 > 24 = 3|V(G)| + 3g - 6$$





A surface is orientable if you can consistently define orientation at every point in the surface, and non-orientable otherwise.

### Observation

A surface is non-orientable if and only if it is represented by an expression of form  $Aw_1Aw_2$ .



#### Theorem (Classification theorem)

Every surface has a representation in one of the two following forms:

- $(ABA^{-1}B^{-1})(CDC^{-1}D^{-1})\dots$ 
  - orientable, k blocks  $\rightarrow$  Euler genus 2k
- (AA)(BB)(CC)...

• non-orientable, k blocks  $\rightarrow$  Euler genus k

## Corollary

Two surfaces are homeomorphic if and only if they have the same Euler genus and orientability.

### Corollary

The Euler genus of an orientable surface is always even.

The genus of a surface  $\Sigma$ :

- Euler genus/2 if  $\Sigma$  is orientable.
- Euler genus if  $\Sigma$  is non-orientable.

Another approach: Start with a sphere, then add <u>handles</u> and <u>crosscaps</u>:



#### Observation

A surface obtained from the sphere by adding a handles and b crosscaps has Euler genus 2a + b, and it is orientable iff b = 0. Consequently, every surface is homeomorphic to some surface obtained in this way.