

Uniformization & Geometrization

Austin Christian

Georgia Tech
Math Major Seminar

October 27, 2023



① Riemann surfaces

A (smooth) real n -manifold is a topological space which has the local structure of \mathbb{R}^n .

i.e., we can do calculus
as if we're in \mathbb{R}^n

① Riemann surfaces

A (smooth) **real n -manifold** is a topological space which has the local structure of \mathbb{R}^n .

i.e., we can do calculus
as if we're in \mathbb{R}^n



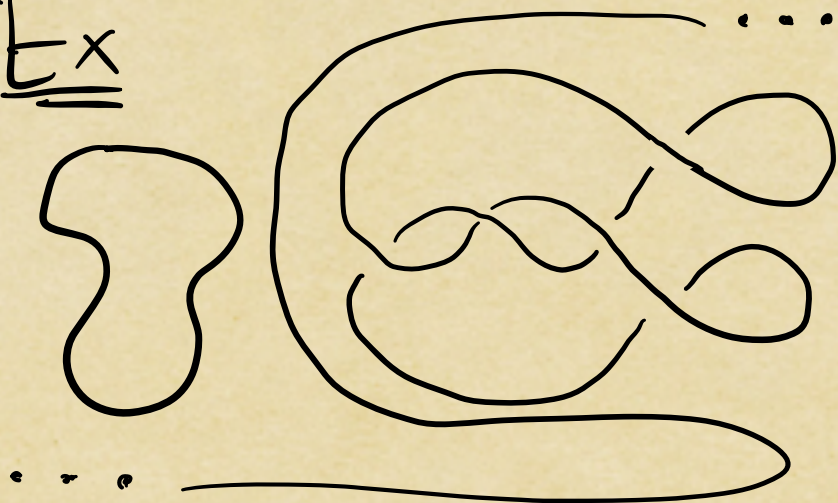
1-manifolds

① Riemann surfaces

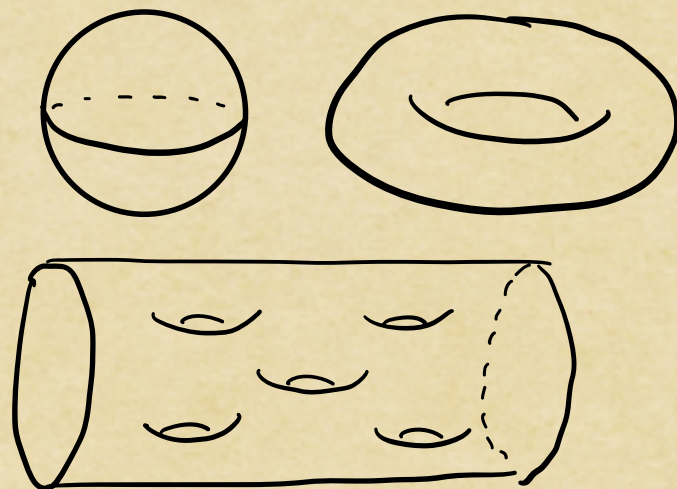
A (smooth) **real n -manifold** is a topological space which has the local structure of \mathbb{R}^n .

i.e., we can do calculus
as if we're in \mathbb{R}^n

Ex



1-manifolds



2-manifolds

① Riemann surfaces

A (smooth) complex n -manifold is a topological space which has the local structure of \mathbb{C}^n .

i.e., we can do calculus
as if we're in \mathbb{C}^n

① Riemann surfaces

A (smooth) complex n -manifold is a topological space which has the local structure of \mathbb{C}^n .

i.e., we can do calculus
as if we're in \mathbb{C}^n

Facts

(1) Any complex n -mfd is a real $2n$ -mfd.

① Riemann surfaces

A (smooth) complex n -manifold is a topological space which has the local structure of \mathbb{C}^n .

i.e., we can do calculus
as if we're in \mathbb{C}^n

Facts

(1) Any complex n -mfld is a real $2n$ -mfld.

(2) The converse is **NOT** true.

We can only do calculus on $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$
if f is conformal.

i.e., it preserves angles

① Riemann surfaces

Facts

(1) Any complex n -mfld is a real $2n$ -mfld.

(2) The converse is **NOT** true.

We can only do calculus on $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$
if f is conformal.

i.e., it preserves angles

Thus a question: which real $2n$ -mflds can
be given the structure of a complex n -mfld?

① Riemann surfaces

Facts

(1) Any complex n -mfld is a real $2n$ -mfld.

(2) The converse is **NOT** true.

We can only do calculus on $f: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$
if f is conformal.

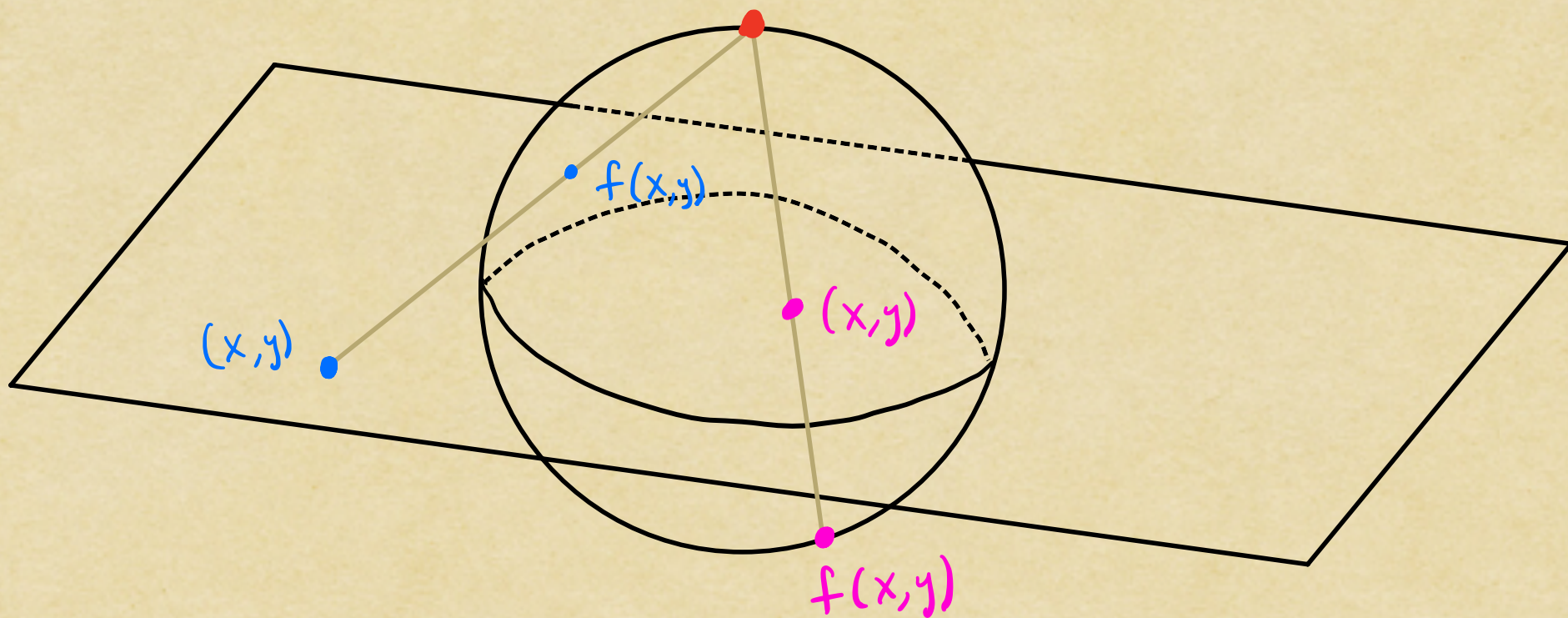
i.e., it preserves angles

Thus a question: which real $2n$ -mflds can be given the structure of a complex n -mfld?

$n=1 \Rightarrow$ Which surfaces are Riemann surfaces?

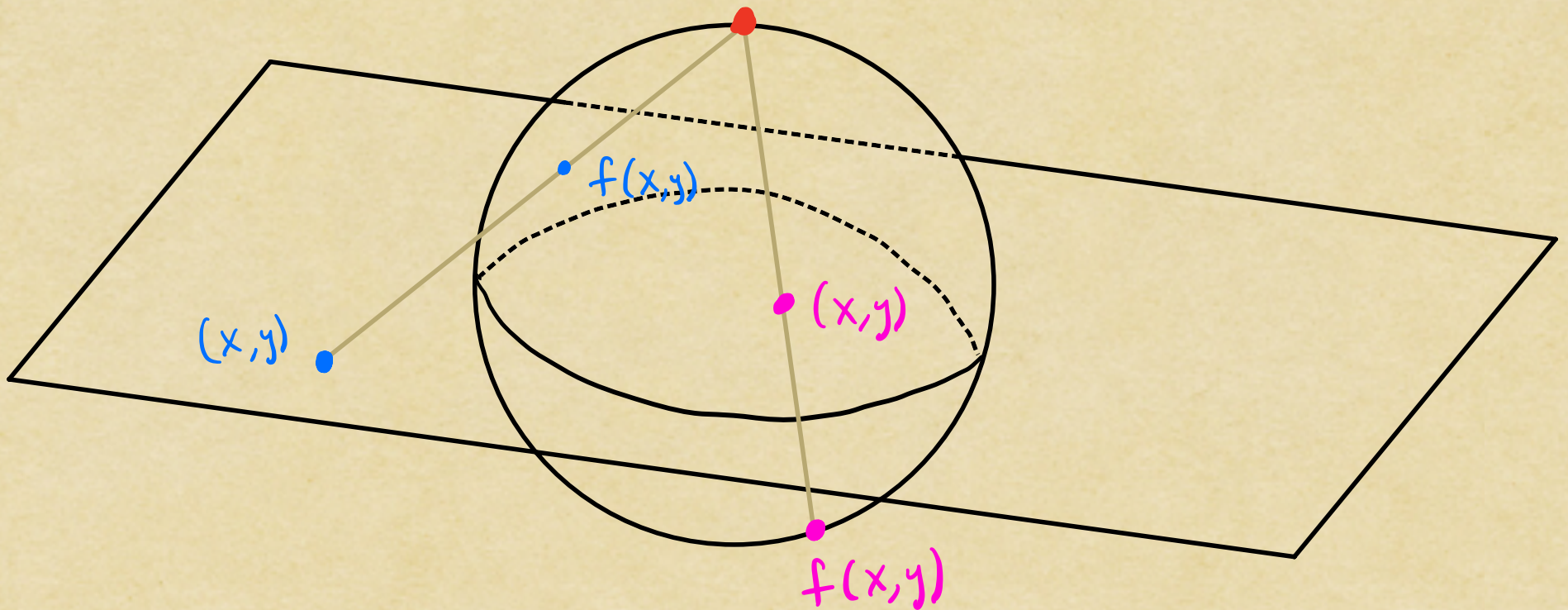
② The Sphere

A famous conformal map $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow S^2$ is given by
Stereographic projection:



② The Sphere

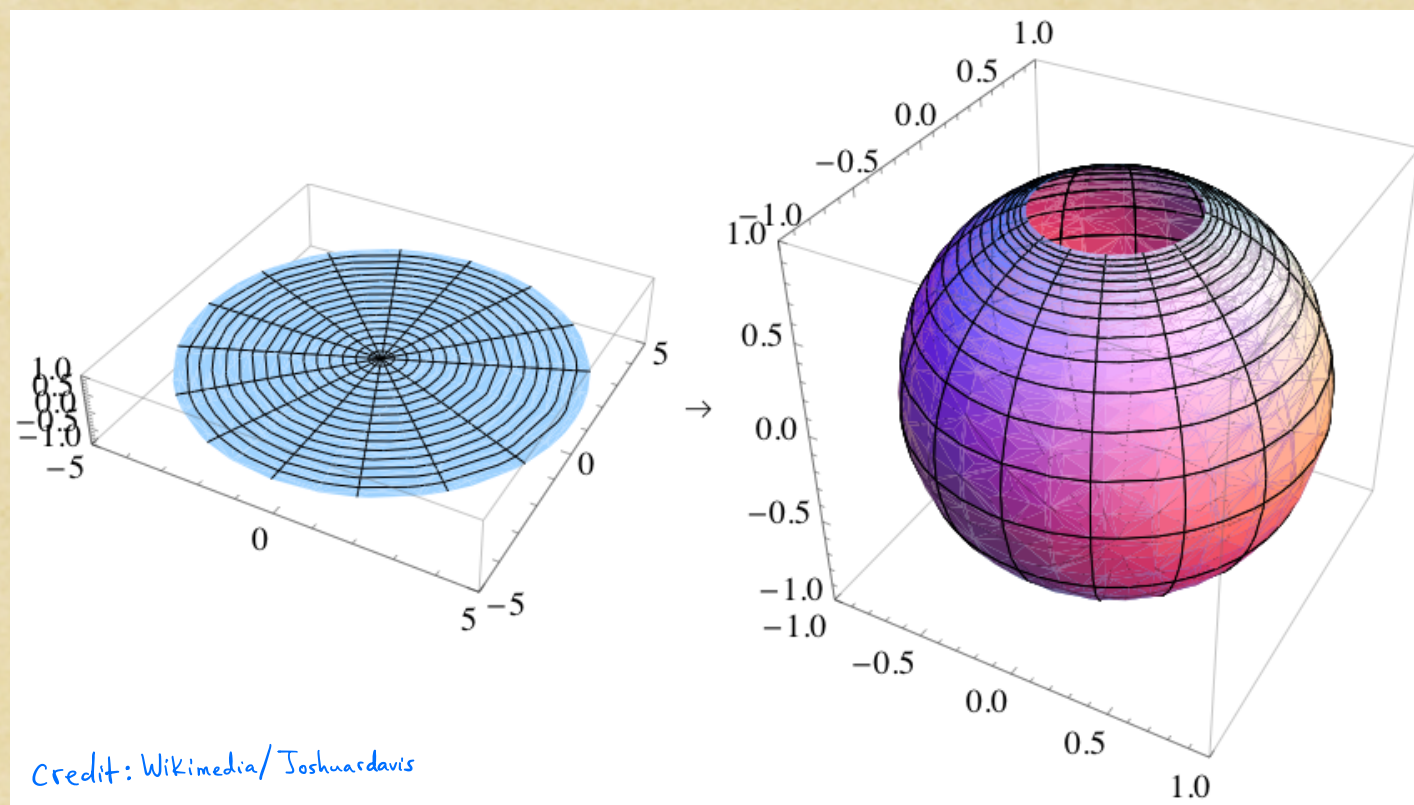
A famous conformal map $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow S^2$ is given by
Stereographic projection:



This preserves angles, but definitely doesn't
preserve distances!

② The Sphere

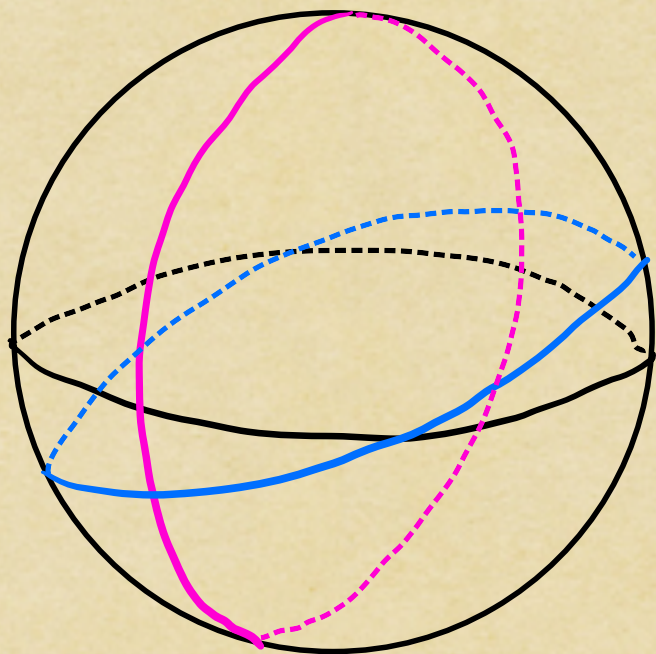
A famous conformal map $\mathbb{C} \rightarrow S^2$ is given by
Stereographic projection:



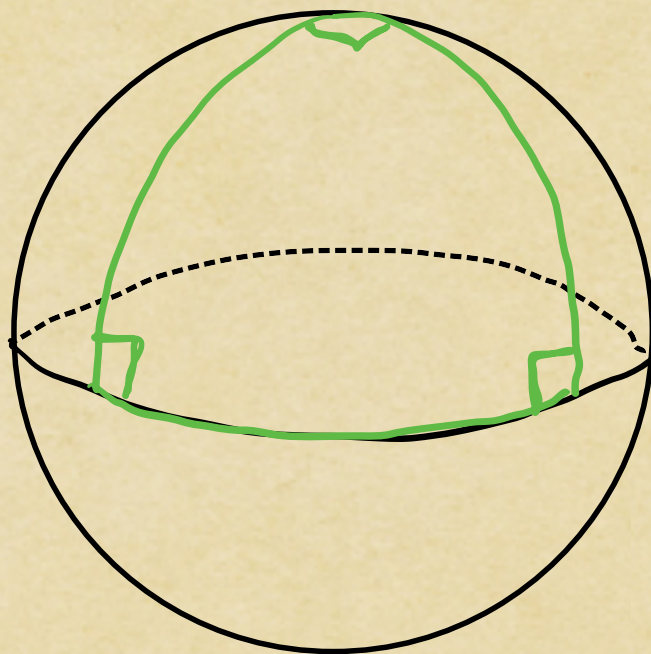
This preserves angles, but definitely doesn't preserve distances!

② The Sphere

So geometry on the sphere treats angles in a familiar way, but other oddities abound:



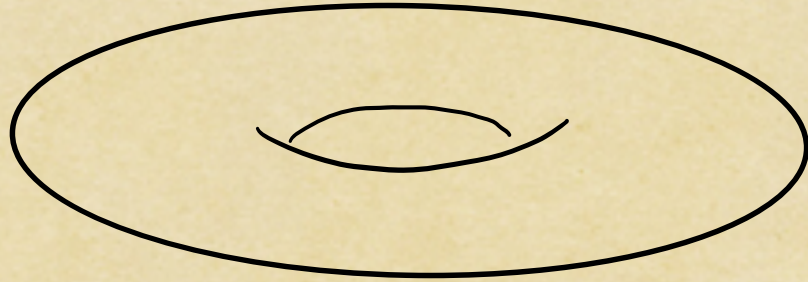
no parallel
lines



triangles have
angle sums
 $> \pi$

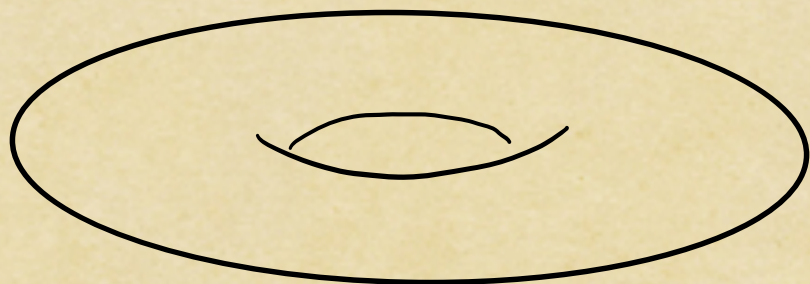
③ Tori

A torus looks like the surface of a donut:



③ Tori

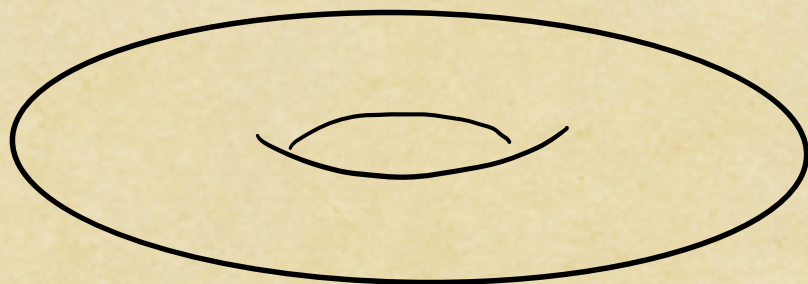
A torus looks like the surface of a donut:



As a surface in \mathbb{R}^3 , the geometry of T^2 isn't quite what we want.

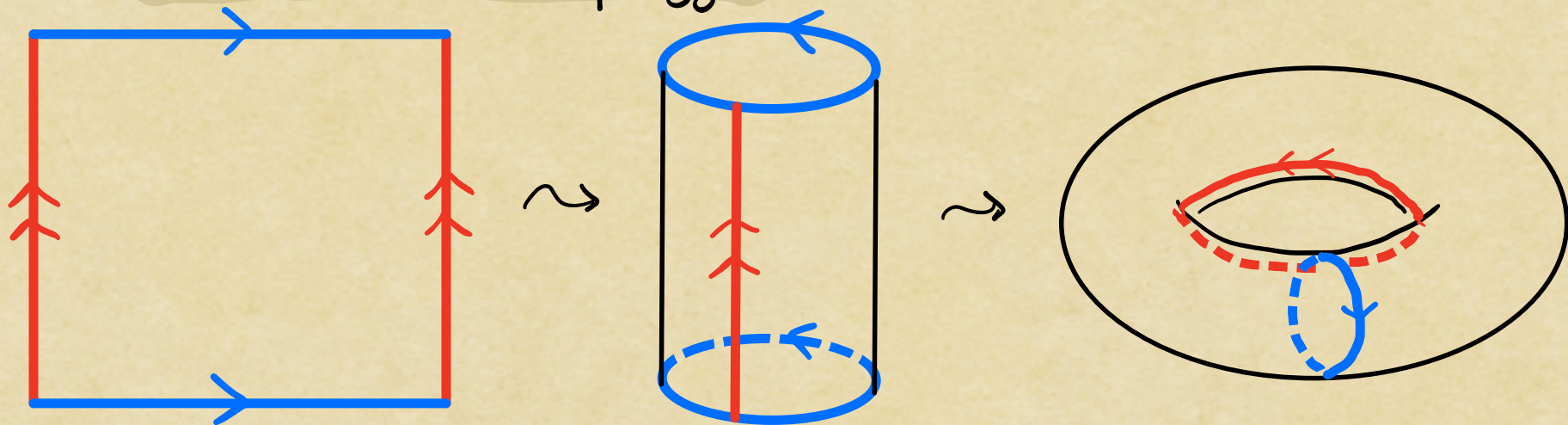
③ Tori

A torus looks like the surface of a donut:



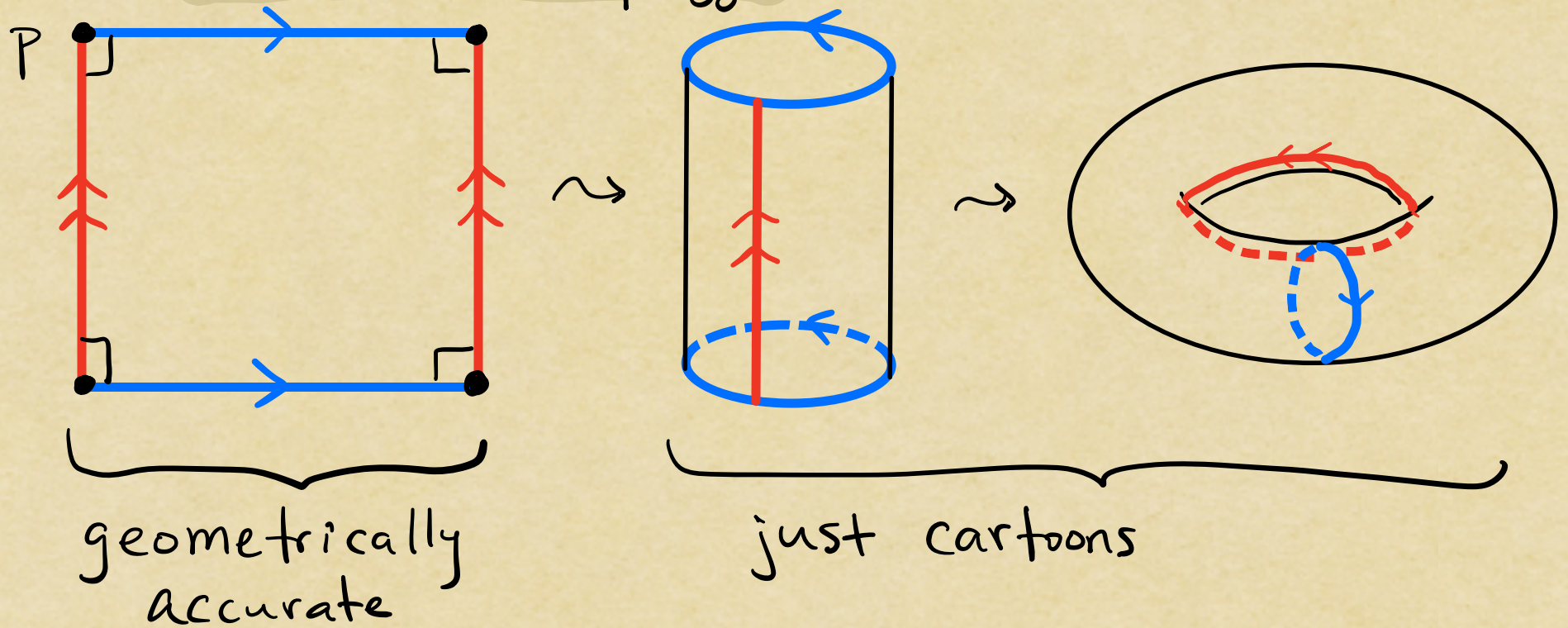
As a surface in \mathbb{R}^3 , the geometry of T^2 isn't quite what we want.

We can build an abstract version of T^2 from its fundamental polygon:



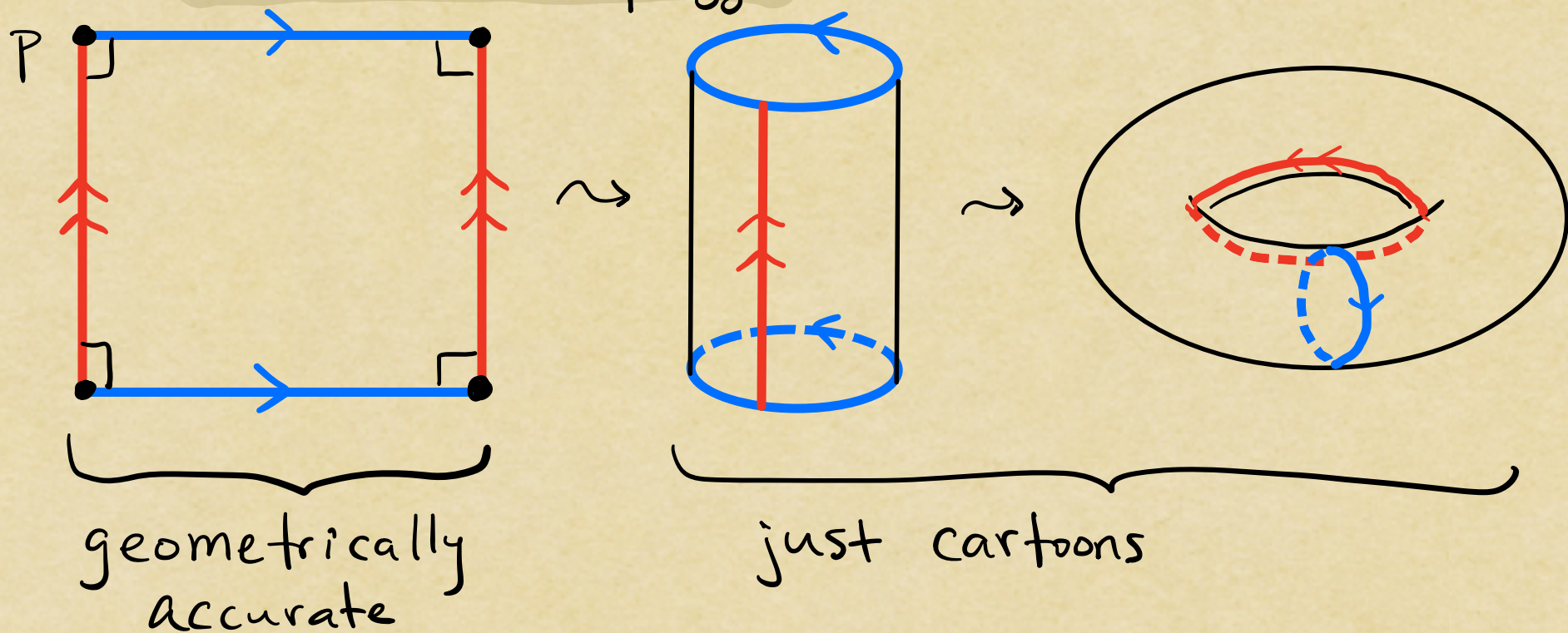
③ Tori

We can build an abstract version of T^2 from its fundamental polygon:



③ Tori

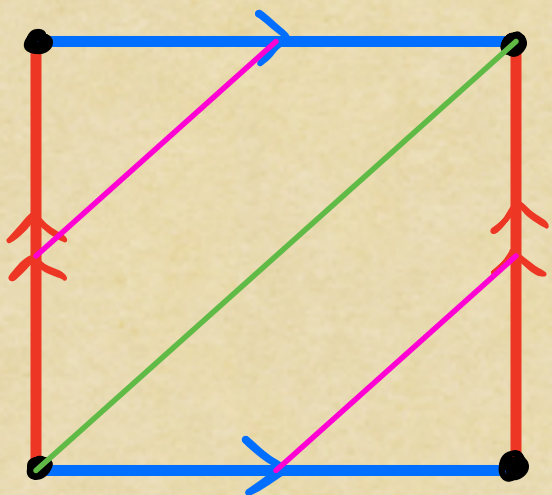
We can build an abstract version of T^2 from its fundamental polygon:



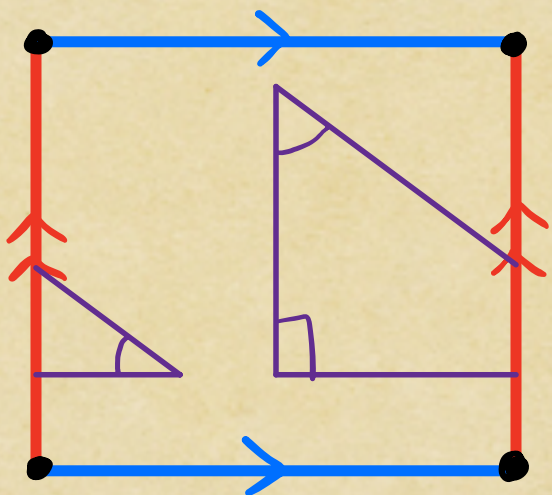
We think of T^2 as \mathbb{C}/\sim , where \sim is the gluing from the polygon. This is possible because the angles at p sum to 2π .

③ Tori

There are big-scale differences from \mathbb{C} , but locally, the geometry is back to normal:



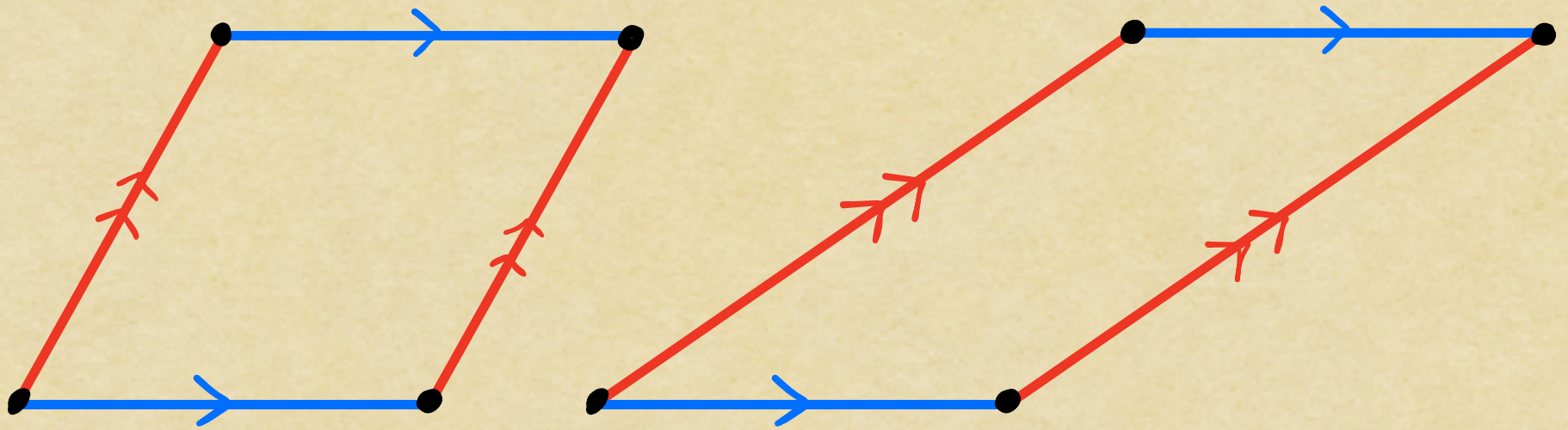
parallel lines!



triangles have
angle sums $= \pi$!

③ Tori

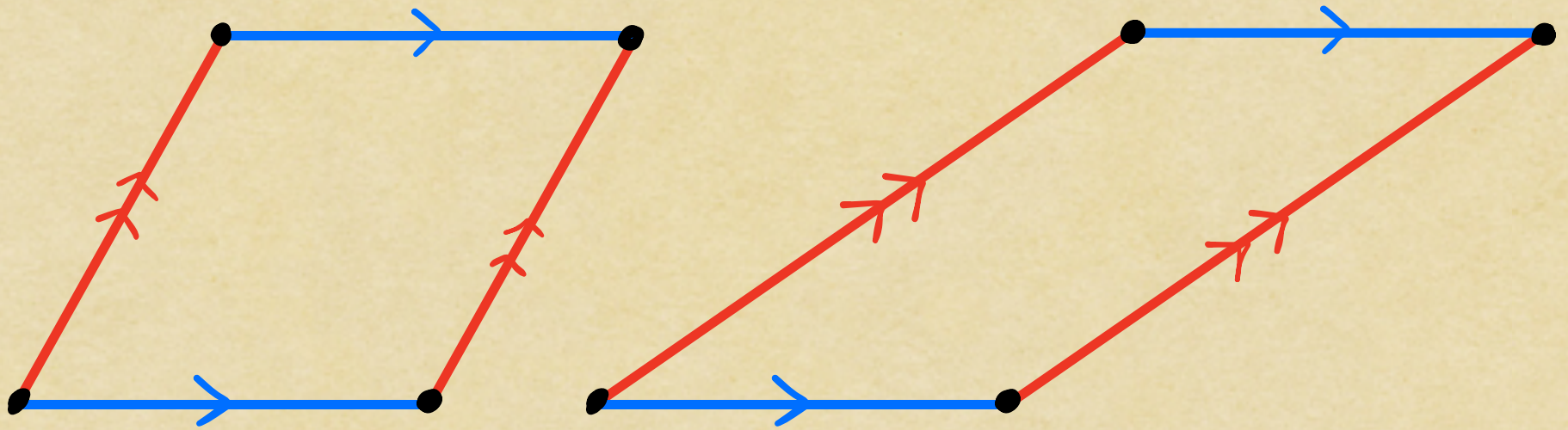
We can vary the big-scale geometry by using different fundamental polygons:



We just need the angle sum at the corners to be 2π .

③ Tori

We can vary the big-scale geometry by using different fundamental polygons:

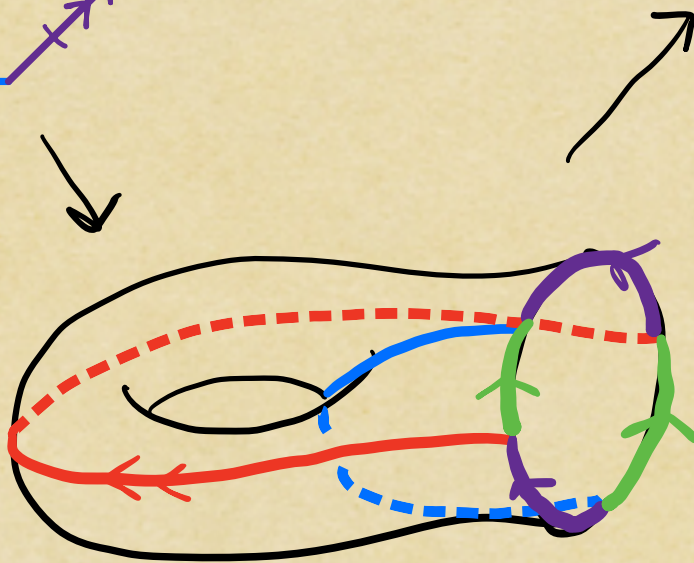
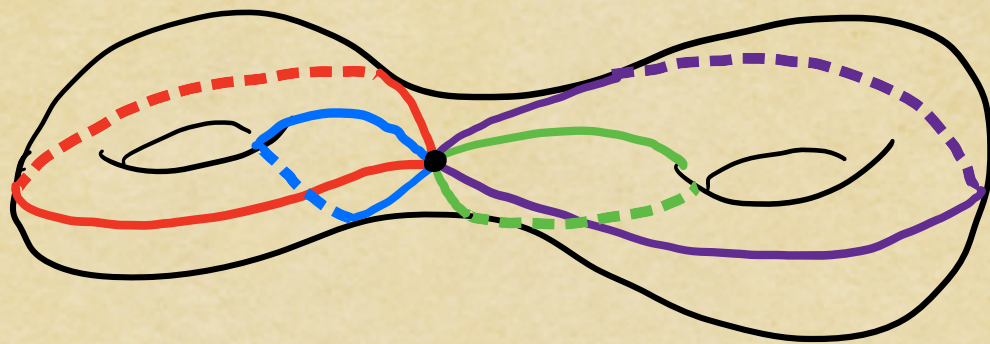
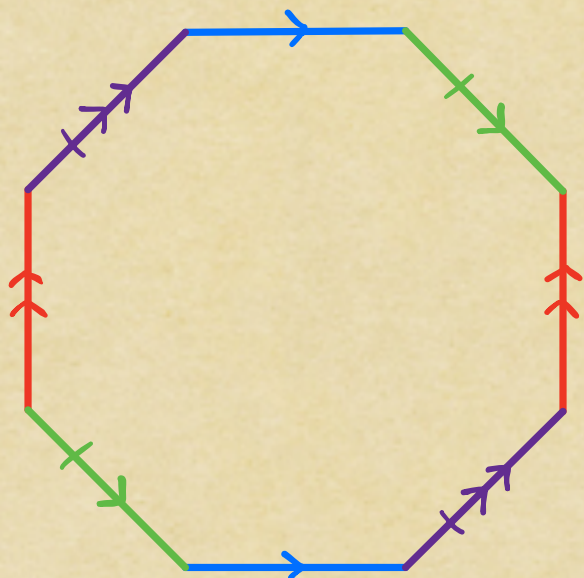


We just need the angle sum at the corners to be 2π .

All of these have **Euclidean** geometry locally.

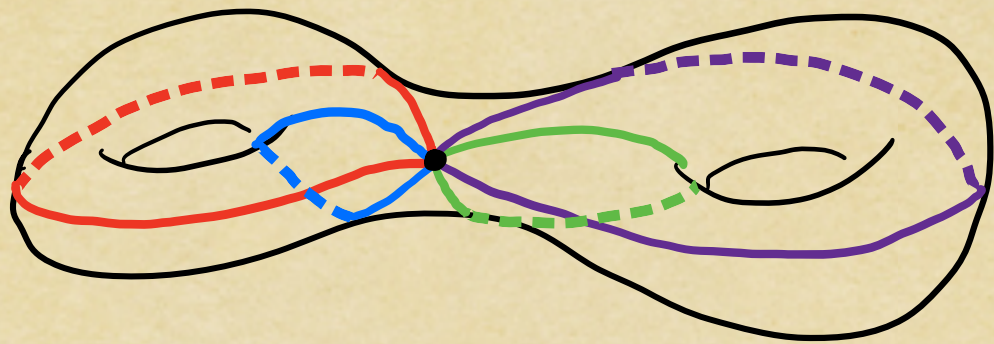
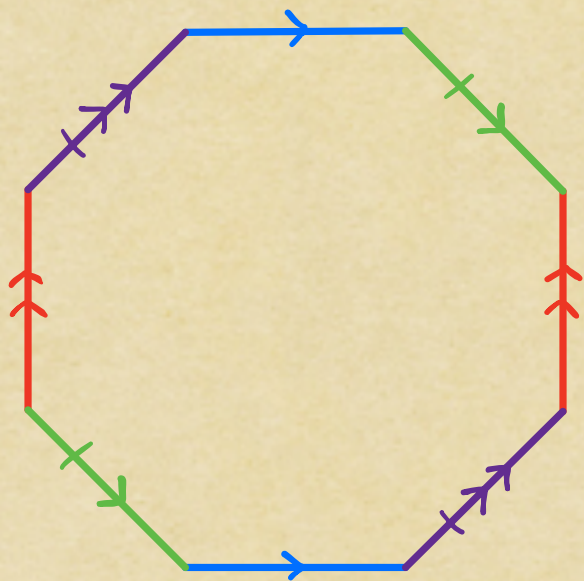
④ Higher-genus surfaces

The two-holed donut Σ_2 also has a fundamental polygon:



④ Higher-genus surfaces

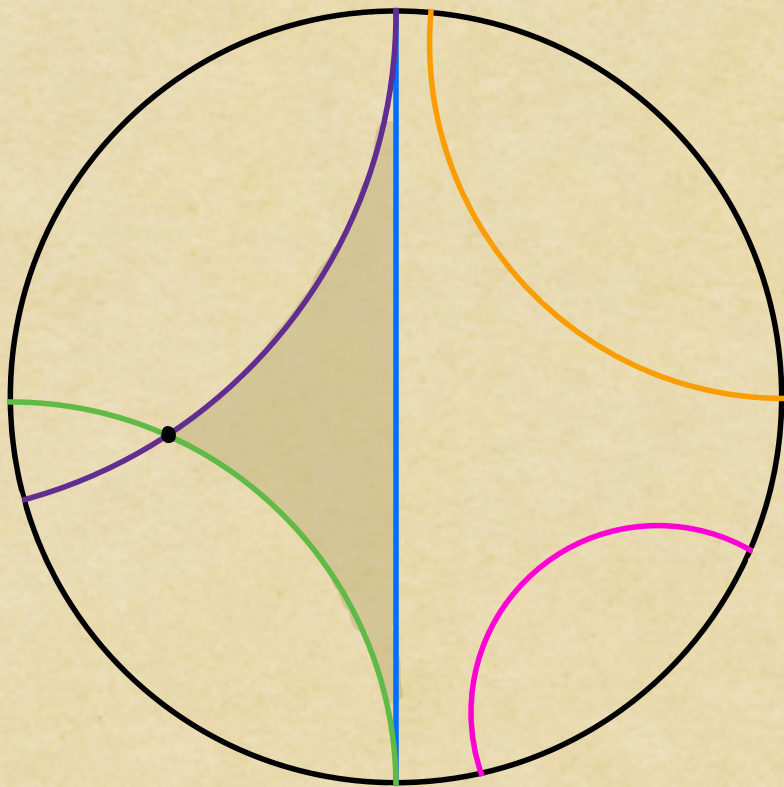
The two-holed donut Σ_2 also has a fundamental polygon:



Problem! The angle sum at the corner is 6π , so we can't do the gluing in a geometric manner — even abstractly!

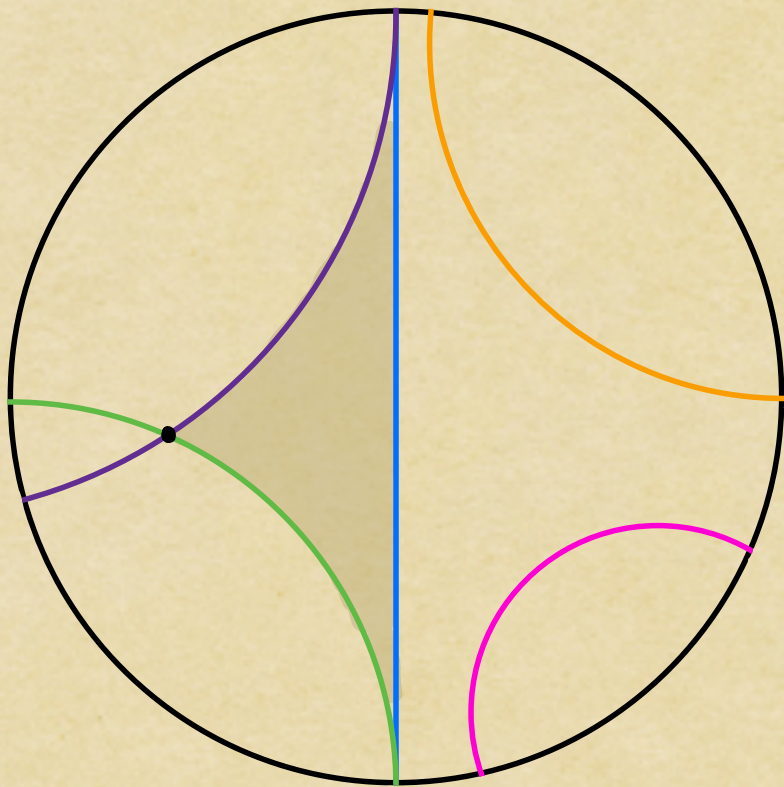
④ Higher-genus surfaces

Our savior is the hyperbolic disc. This is the unit disc \mathbb{D} , endowed with a special geometry where "straight lines" are circular arcs perpendicular to $\partial\mathbb{D}$.



④ Higher-genus surfaces

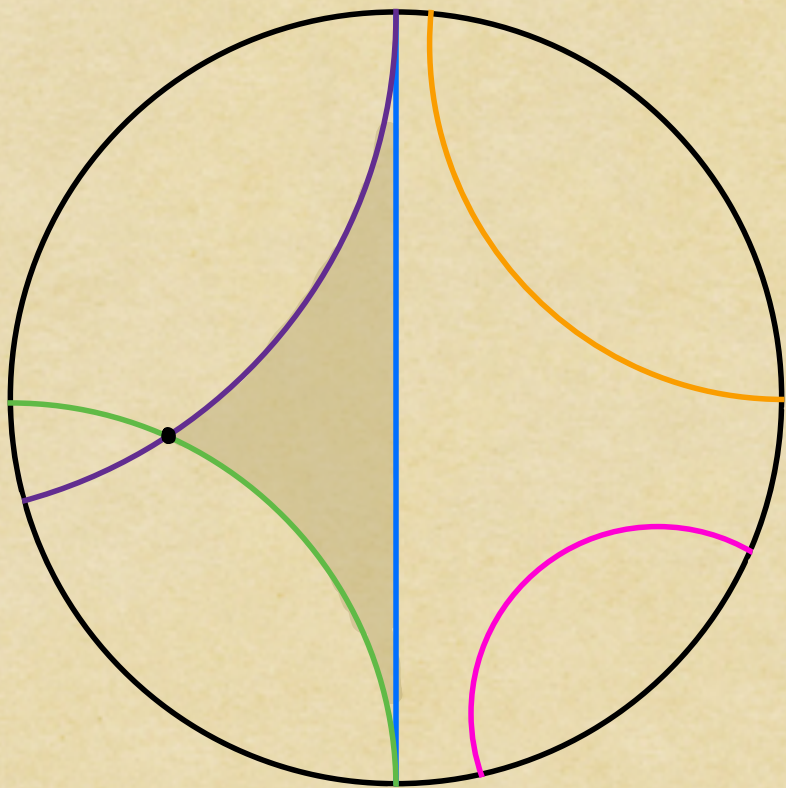
Our savior is the hyperbolic disc. This is the unit disc \mathbb{D} , endowed with a special geometry where "straight lines" are circular arcs perpendicular to $\partial\mathbb{D}$.



Things get... weird.

④ Higher-genus surfaces

Our savior is the hyperbolic disc. This is the unit disc \mathbb{D} , endowed with a special geometry where "straight lines" are circular arcs perpendicular to $\partial\mathbb{D}$.

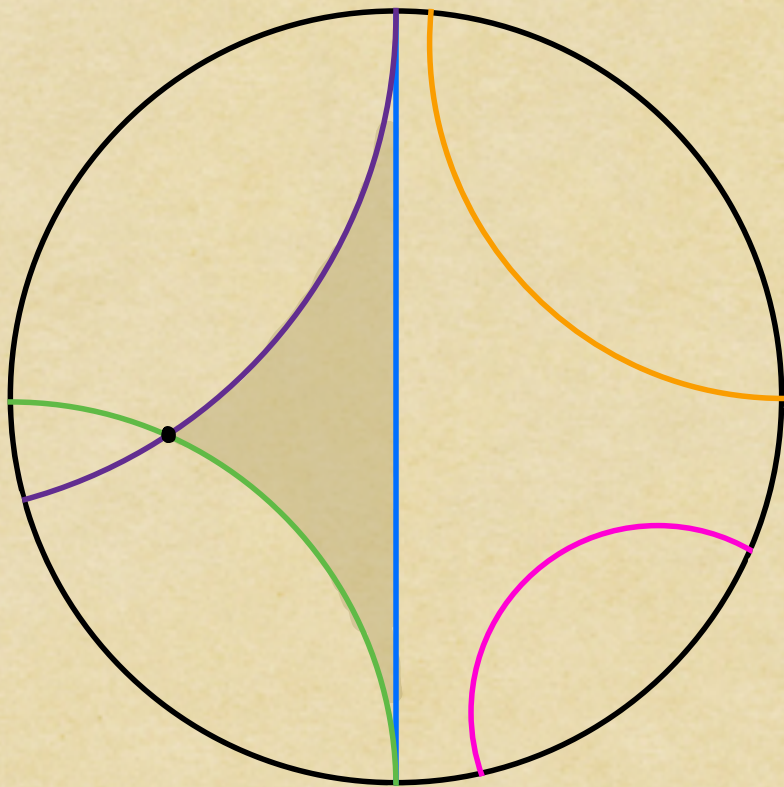


Things get... weird.

Triangles have $\sum \angle < \pi$.

④ Higher-genus surfaces

Our savior is the hyperbolic disc. This is the unit disc \mathbb{D} , endowed with a special geometry where "straight lines" are circular arcs perpendicular to $\partial\mathbb{D}$.



Things get... weird.

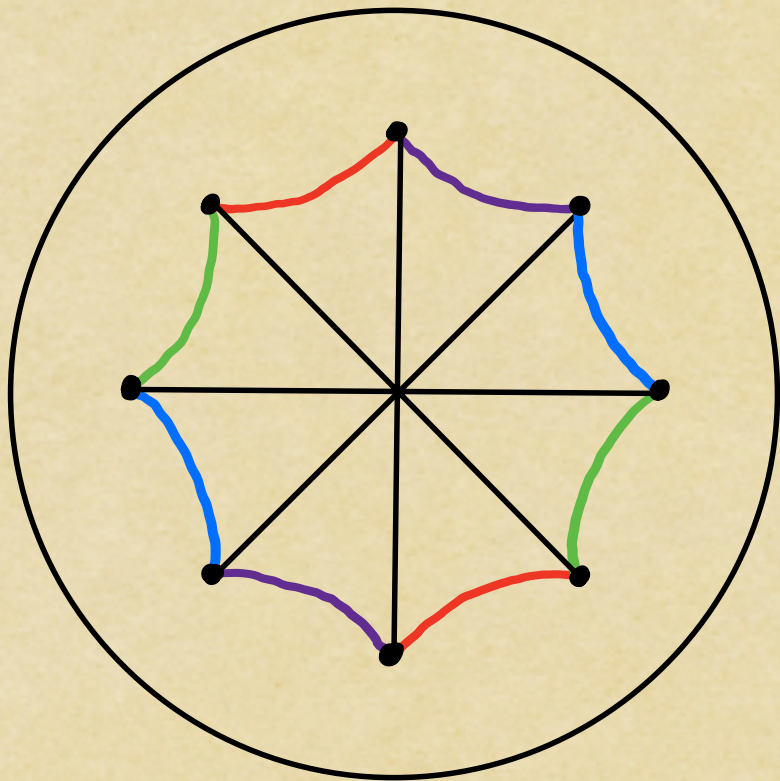
Triangles have $\sum \angle < \pi$.

Too many parallel lines?

④ Higher-genus surfaces

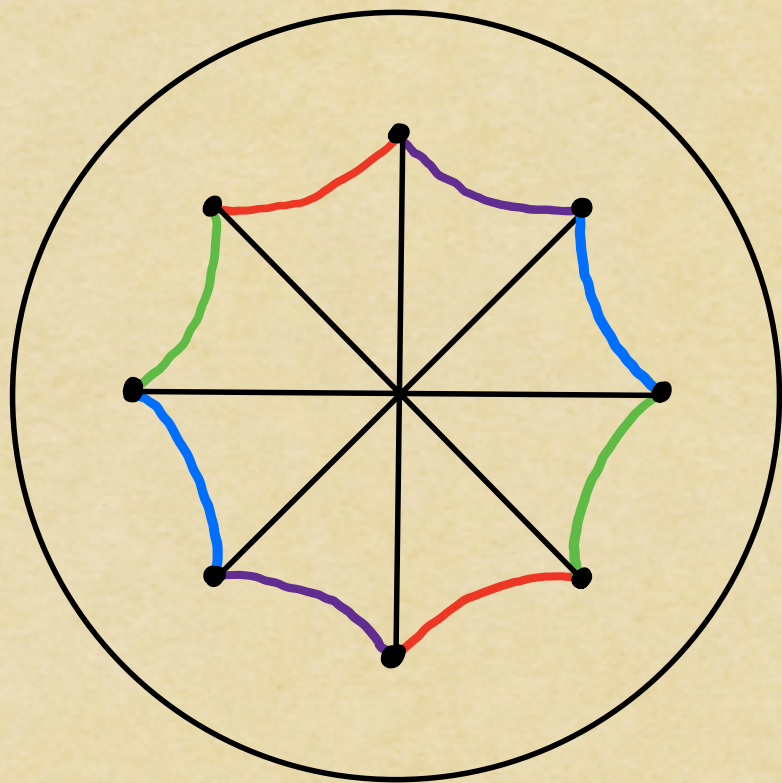
We find this wild geometry helpful, since we

can now build a regular octagon with angle sum equal to 2π .



④ Higher-genus surfaces

We find this wild geometry helpful, since we



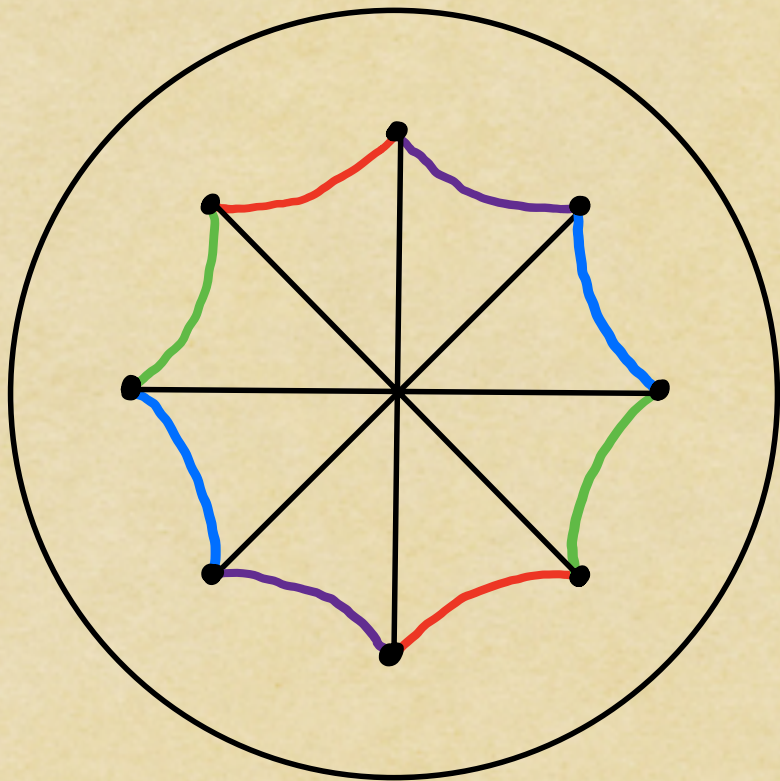
can now build a regular octagon with angle sum equal to 2π .

Upshot: Σ_2 is a complex manifold with hyperbolic geometry.

④ Higher-genus surfaces

We find this wild geometry helpful, since we

can now build a regular octagon with angle sum equal to 2π .



Upshot: Σ_2 is a complex manifold with hyperbolic geometry.

$\Sigma_g \rightsquigarrow$ fundamental $4g$ -gon \rightsquigarrow hyperbolic geometry, if $g \geq 2$

⑤ Uniformization & Geometrization

Uniformization Theorem Every surface admits the structure of a complex manifold, and the resulting geometry is:

- elliptic if $g = 0$;
- parabolic if $g = 1$;
- hyperbolic if $g \geq 2$.

⑤ Uniformization & Geometrization

Uniformization Theorem Every surface admits the structure of a complex manifold, and the resulting geometry is:

- elliptic if $g = 0$;
- parabolic if $g = 1$;
- hyperbolic if $g \geq 2$.

Thurston's geometrization conjecture Every real 3-manifold can be decomposed into pieces which admit geometries, and these geometries have one of 8 types.

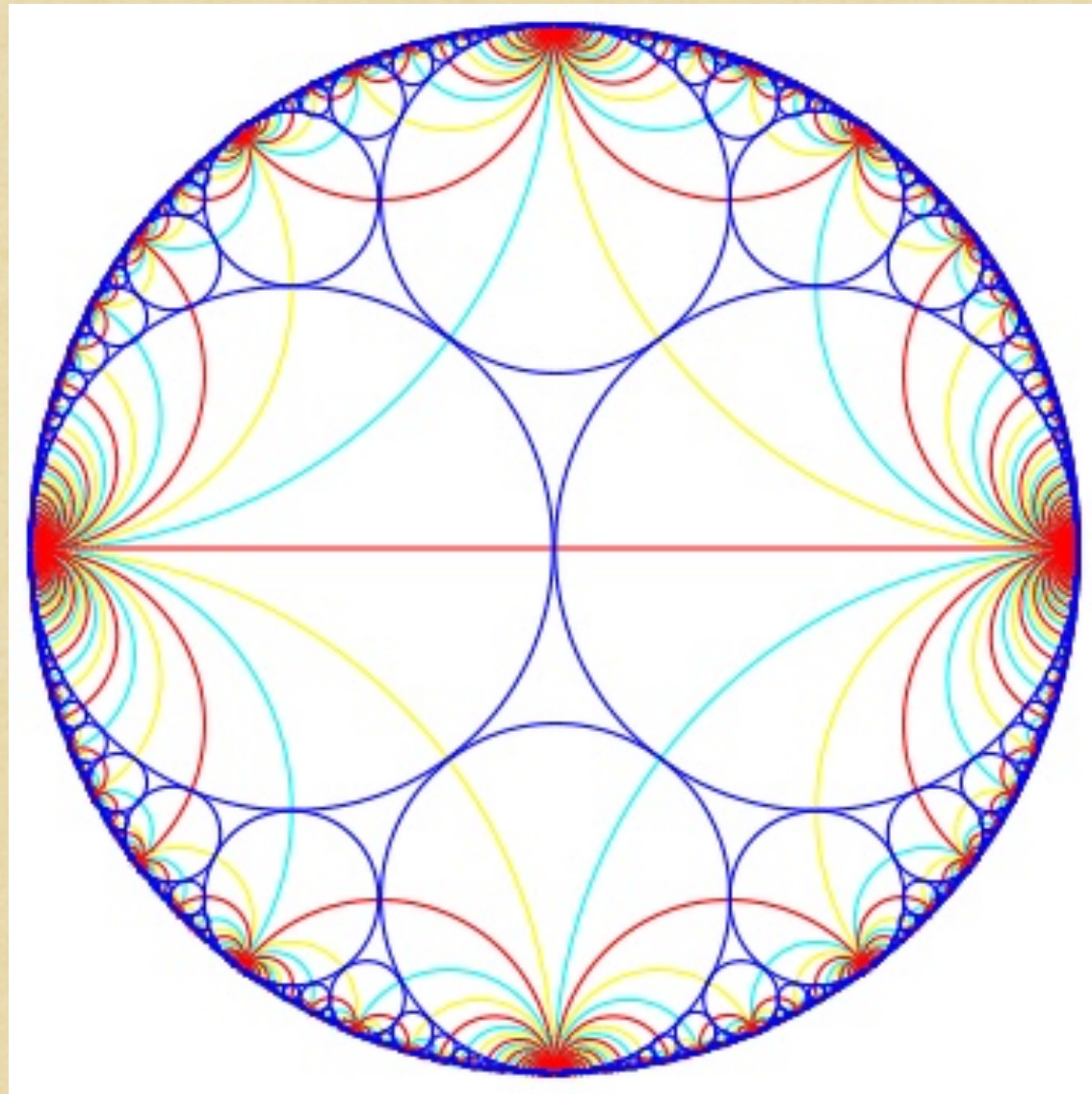
⑤ Uniformization & Geometrization

Thurston's geometrization conjecture Every real 3-manifold can be decomposed into pieces which admit geometries, and these geometries have one of 8 types.

Spring 2024: Math 4803

MW 12:30pm - 1:45pm

Goal: understand the precise statement
of Thurston's geometrization
conjecture



Credit: F. Bonahon