

Homework: Compute the Gaussian curvature at a point in the sphere of radius R. If you feel brave, compute also the curvature at a point in the hyperbolic plane (using one of the models).

 $K(p) := 3 \left( \lim_{r \to 0^+} \frac{2 \pi r - C(r, p)}{\pi r^3} \right)$ 

C(r,p) is the length of the circle of radius r and center p. K(p) is the Gaussian curvature at p

Many people have an impression that mathematics is an austere and formal subject concerned with complicated and ultimately confusing rules for the manipulation of numbers, symbols, and equations, rather like the preparation of a complicated income tax return. **Good** mathematics is quite opposite to this. Mathematics is an art of human understanding. ... Our brains are complicated devices, with many specialized modules working behind the scenes to give us an integrated understanding of the world. Mathematical concepts are abstract, so it ends up that there are many different ways they can sit in our brains. A given mathematical concept might be primarily a symbolic equation, a picture, a rhythmic pattern, a short movie — or best of all, an integrated combination of several different representations.

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## Simple curves can be complicated







- Fix a hyperbolic surface S.
- For each k ≥ 0, define l<sub>k</sub>(S) as the length of the shortest closed geodesic in S with at least k self-intersection points.
- Prove that  $I_k(S)$  is increasing.

## Surfaces









































Fix a surface word for a surface S. The *word length of a deformation class of curves on S* is the number of letters on the curve word.

How many deformation classes of curves of word length L on the torus with one boundary component? And on the pair of pants?





Fix a surface S. Consider a deformation class of curves w on S. The *selfintersection number of w* is the smallest number of crossings of representatives of w with double intersections

What is the selfintersection number of the class of the red curve?























A regular octogon in the Poincarè disk with interior angle 135°

## Length of curves on surfaces

In surfaces of constant negative curvature (that is, hyperbolic), every deformation class of curves contains a unique shortest curve. This shortest curve is called geodesic.





One can associate a real number to each deformation class of closed curves: the length of the shortest curve in the class.

presentation



Determine (or find bounds of) the Hausdorff dimension of the limit set of a hyperbolic pair of pants in terms of the length of the boundary components.

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Find lengths of curves using cosh[L/2]=trace[L]/2

Recipe (to understand later):

- 1. Associate to each curve a curve word.
- 2. Find the appropriate matrix associated to each letter of your curve word.
- 3. Replace each letter of your curve word with the matrices you found in 2.
- 4. Use the formula above to obtain L, the length of your curve.







Determine (or find bounds of) the Hausdorff dimension of the **limit set** of a hyperbolic pair of pants in terms of the length of the boundary components. Determine (or find bounds of) the Hausdorff dimension of the limit set of a hyperbolic pair of pants in terms of the length of the boundary components.