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# Higher genus Soccer Balls and Kaleidoscopic Tilings in the Hyperbolic Plane

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# Outline

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- **Talk 1** The relation between higher genus soccer balls and the kaleidoscopic tilings
- **Talk 2** Divisible tiling in the hyperbolic plane
- all of this work has been done jointly with undergraduates

# First Talk: Soccer Ball and Tilings

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- Analyze soccer ball (and torus soccer ball)
- Riemann-Hurwitz equation and Euler characteristic
- tilings in the Euclidean and hyperbolic plane
- Making higher genus soccer balls
- geometric structure vs. algebraic structure
  - punch line group theory wins the day

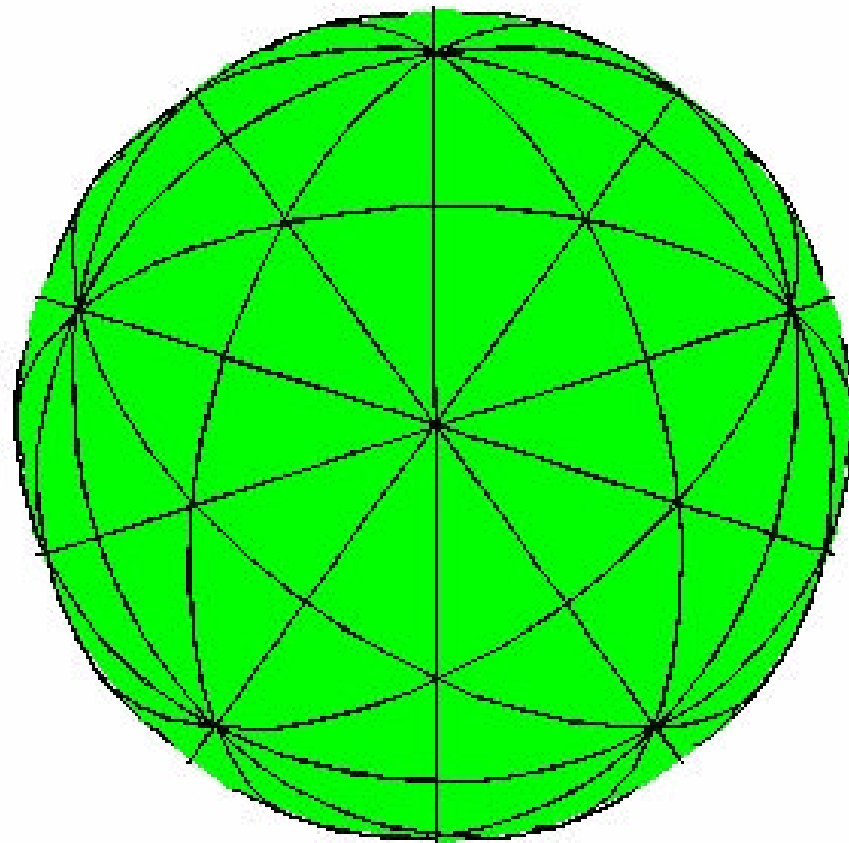
# The soccer ball

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- show ball
- show tiling of soccer ball
- show tiling of torus
- define tiling
- from tiling to soccer ball

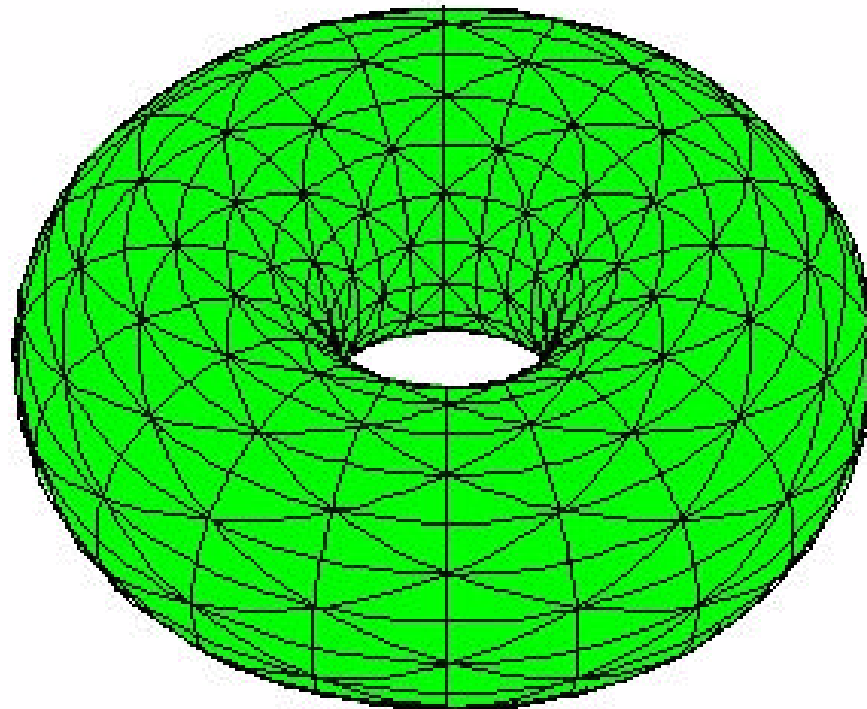
# Icosahedral-Dodecahedral Tiling

## $(2,3,5)$ - tiling



# $(2,4,4)$ -tiling of the torus

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## Tiling: Definition

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- Let  $S$  be a surface of genus  $S$ .
- Tiling: Covering by polygons “without gaps and overlaps”
- Kaleidoscopic: Symmetric via reflections in edges.
- Geodesic: Edges in tiles extend to geodesics in both directions
- terminology:  $(1,m,n)$ -triangle,

# Tiling to soccer ball

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- standard soccer ball example
- non-standard soccer ball
- torus example



# Riemann Hurwitz equation (euler characteristic proof)

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Let  $S$  be a surface of genus  $\mathcal{S}$  and  $|G|$  the number of triangles:

$$\frac{2\mathcal{S} - 2}{|G|} = 1 - \frac{1}{l} - \frac{1}{m} - \frac{1}{n}$$

# Hyperbolic triangles

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- hyperbolic when  $s \geq 2$  or

$$\frac{1}{l} + \frac{1}{m} + \frac{1}{n} < 0$$

# Hyperbolic geometry

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- Points, lines and angles
- reflections - show picture

# Tilings of Euclidean and Hyperbolic Plane - Examples

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## ◆ Euclidean

- (2,3,6) example
- (2,4,4) example
- (3,3,3) example

## ◆ hyperbolic

- (2,3,7) example
- (3,3,4) example

# Soccer Ball Patterns

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- $(2,3,6)$  patterns
- $(2,4,4)$  patterns
- $(2,3,7)$  pattern

# Making Soccer Balls

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- Show picture of making surface from a tiling
- words to label tiles
- word relations give a surface construction recipe

# Word relations 1

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Define:

$$a = pq, b = qr, c = rp$$

There are universal relations  
and surface relations

# Word relations 2

## Universal Word Relations

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$$p^2 = q^2 = r^2 = 1.$$

$$a^l = b^m = c^n = 1,$$

$$abc = 1, (pqqr rp = 1)$$

$$q(a) = qa q^{-1} = qpqq = qp = a^{-1},$$

$$q(b) = qb q^{-1} = qqrq = rq = b^{-1}.$$



## Word relations 3

### Additional relations for a surface

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◆ Example Suppose we have  $l=m=n=4$  and  $ab=ba$  then  $|G| = 16$ .

◆ Reason: There is a map

$$\{\text{words in } a,b,c\} \twoheadrightarrow G = \mathbb{Z}_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_4$$

where  $\mathbb{Z}_4 = \text{integers mod } 4$ .

## Punch line

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- Group theory exactly explains the structure of tiled surfaces and soccer balls
- The very rich theory of groups gives a lot of power in exploring the structure of tilings and soccer balls