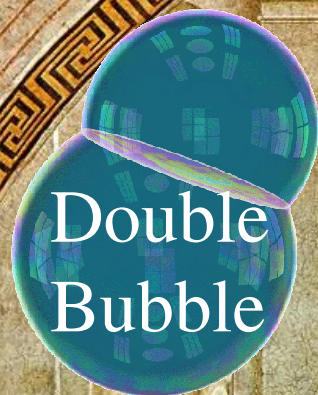


# Isop. and Partitioning Problems

Frank Morgan, Williams College and *Notices*



Double  
Bubble



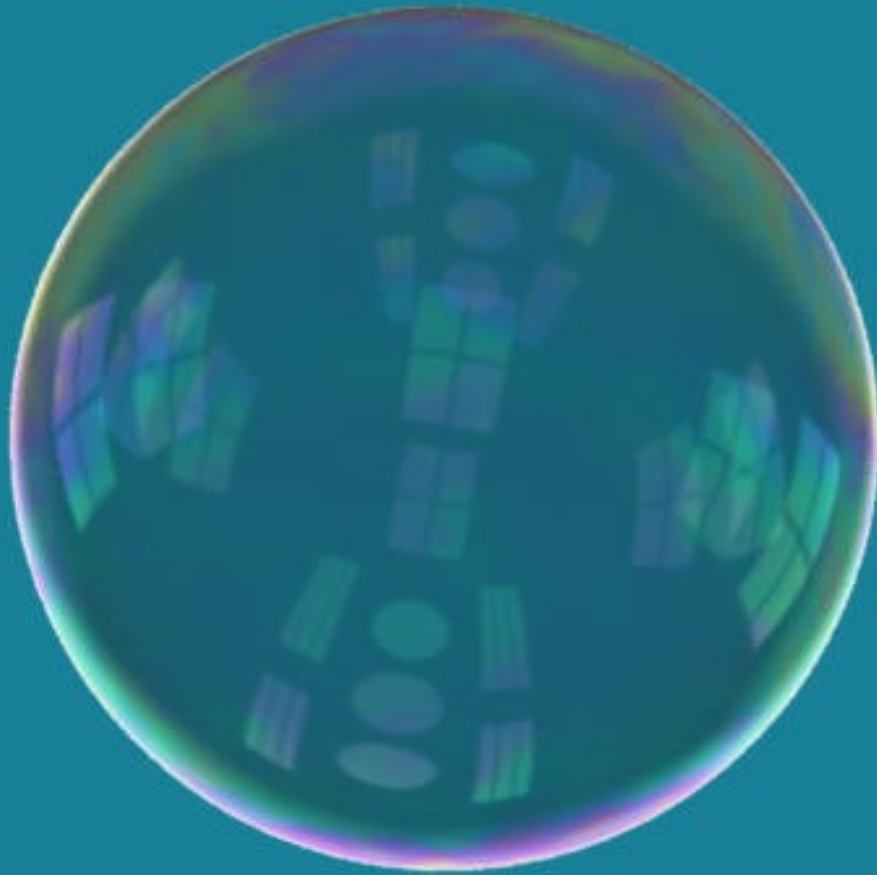
Modern Trends in Differential Geometry  
Sao Paulo

# SINGLE BUBBLE IN $R^2$

Encloses area with  
minimal perimeter.  
Round circle



# SINGLE BUBBLE IN $\mathbb{R}^n$ : ROUND SPHERE by SYMMETRY



**SIMILARLY**  
 **$S^n$  and  $H^n$**   
**Conj  $CP^2$**



# GAUSS PLANE $G^2$

$\mathbb{R}^2$  with Gaussian density

$G^2$

$$\Psi = (1/2\pi) \exp(-r^2/2)$$

Brownian motion  
option pricing  
Poincaré

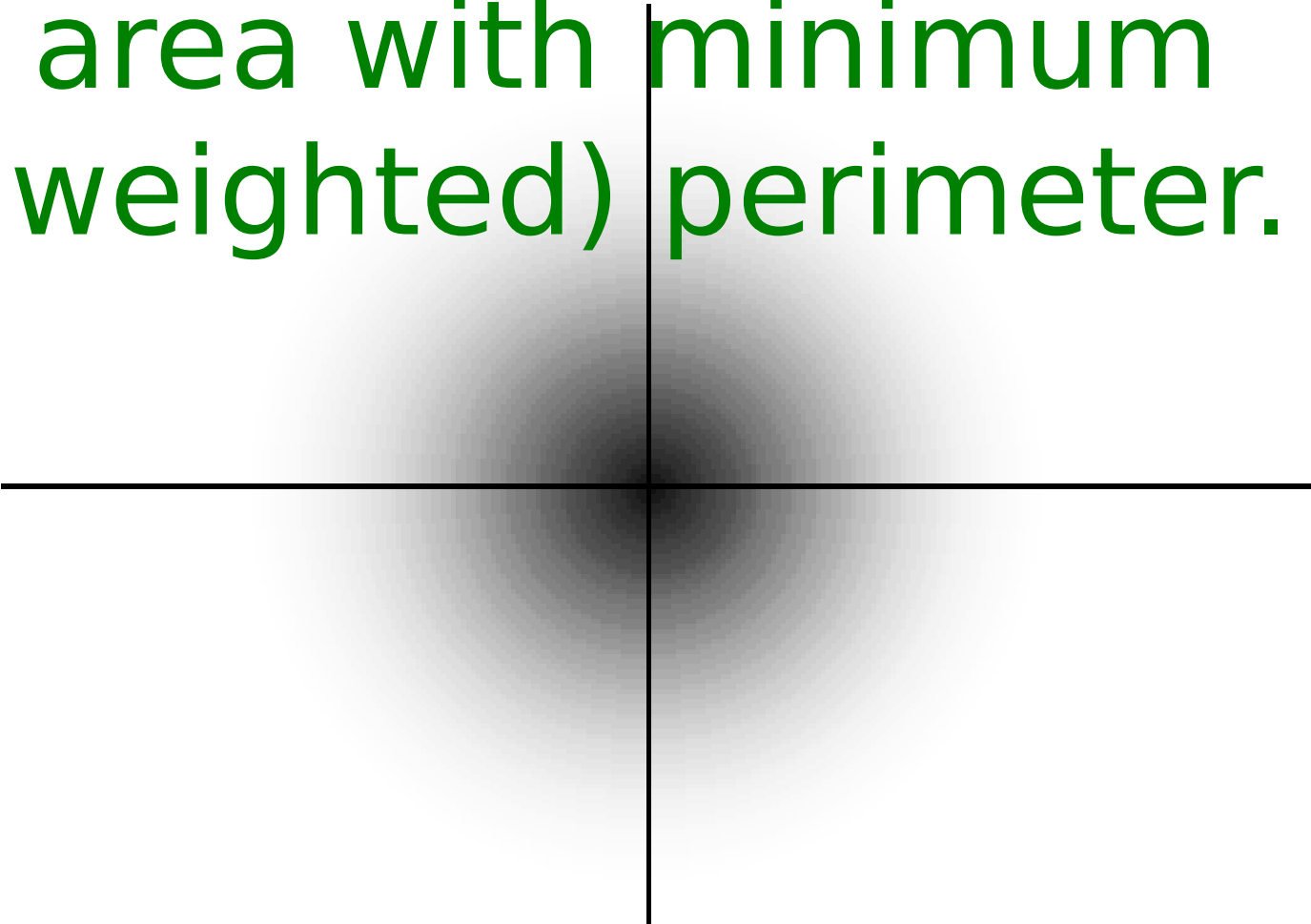
Perelman's proof of

Total weighted area one

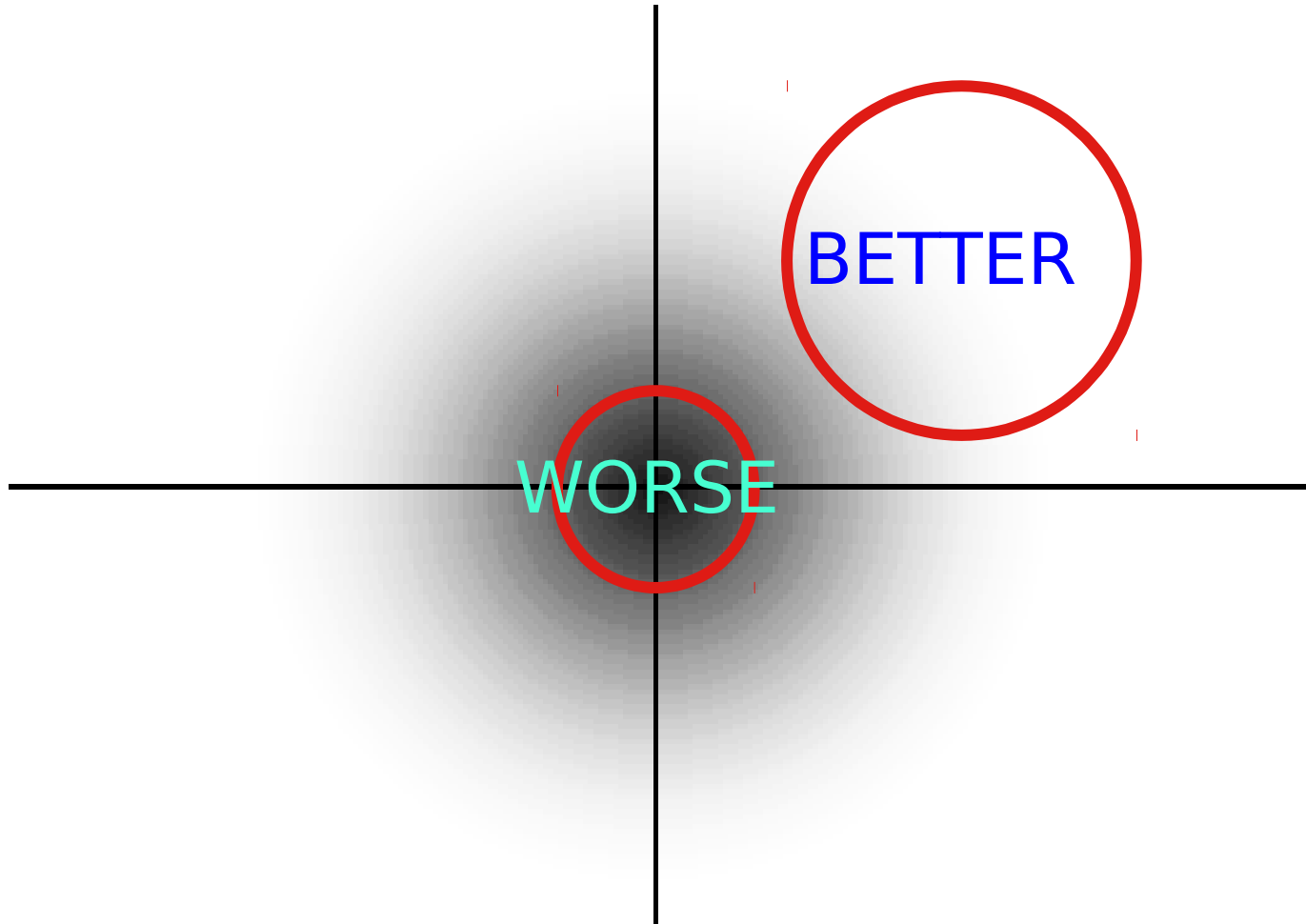
Stock

# Single Bubble in $G^2$

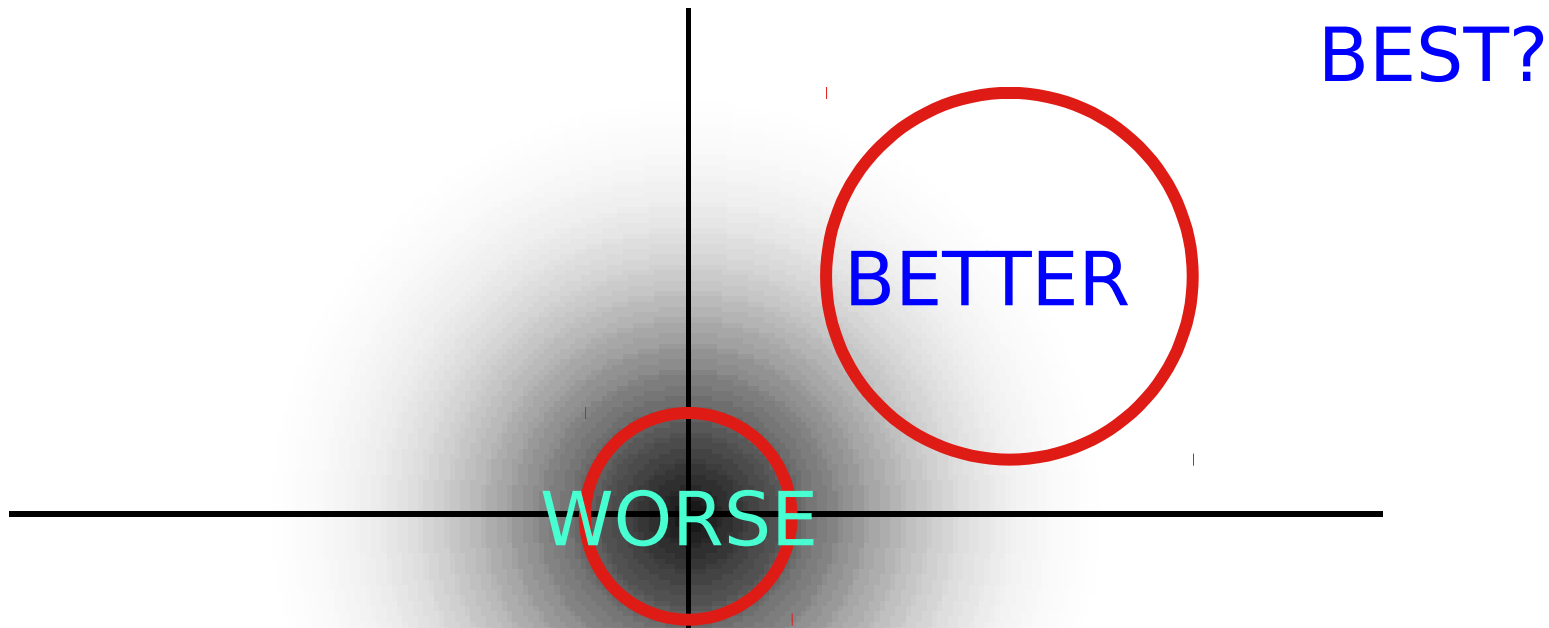
Enclose given (weighted)  
area with minimum  
(weighted) perimeter.



# Bubble in $G^2$

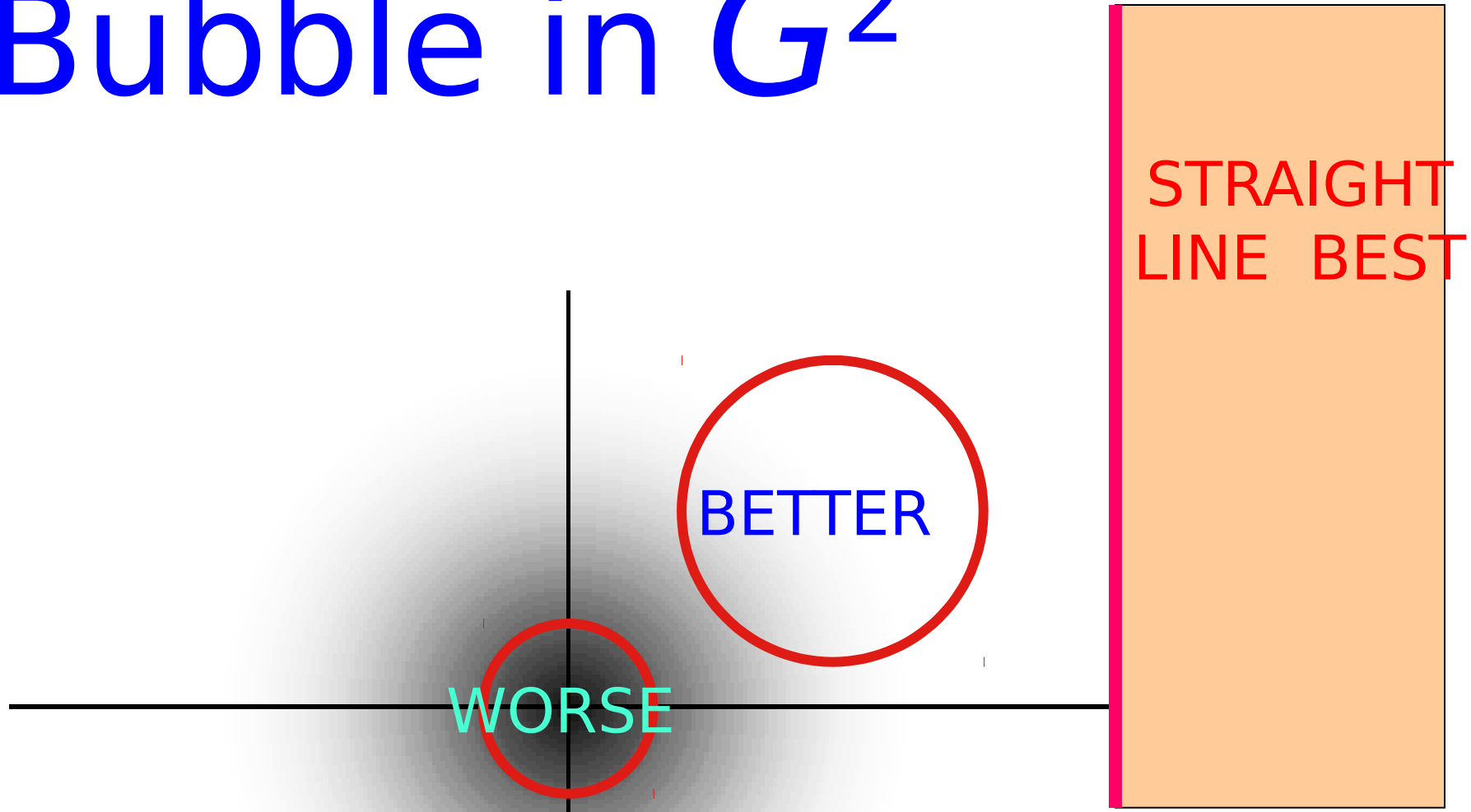


# Bubble in $G^2$



“Bubbles prefer low density.”

# Bubble in $G^2$



Sudakov-Tsirel'son, C Borell, '75 Carlen-Kerce, '01

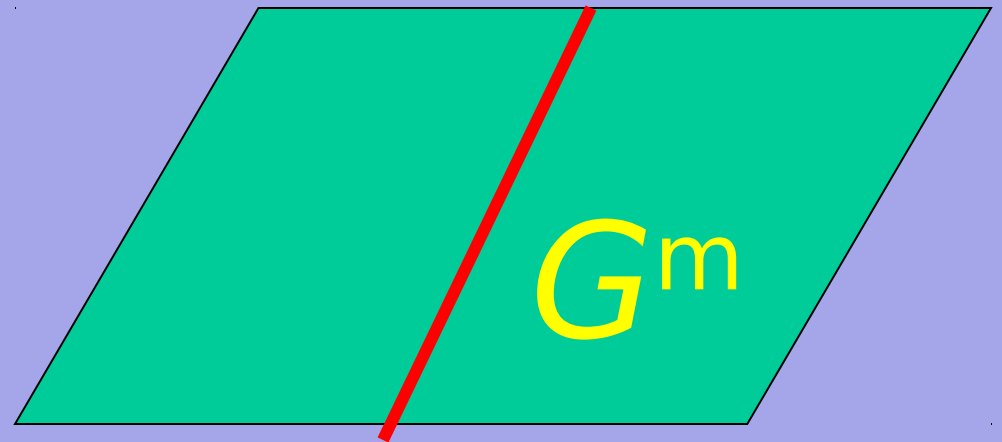


IN  $G^m$ , BUBBLE IS

HYPERPLANE

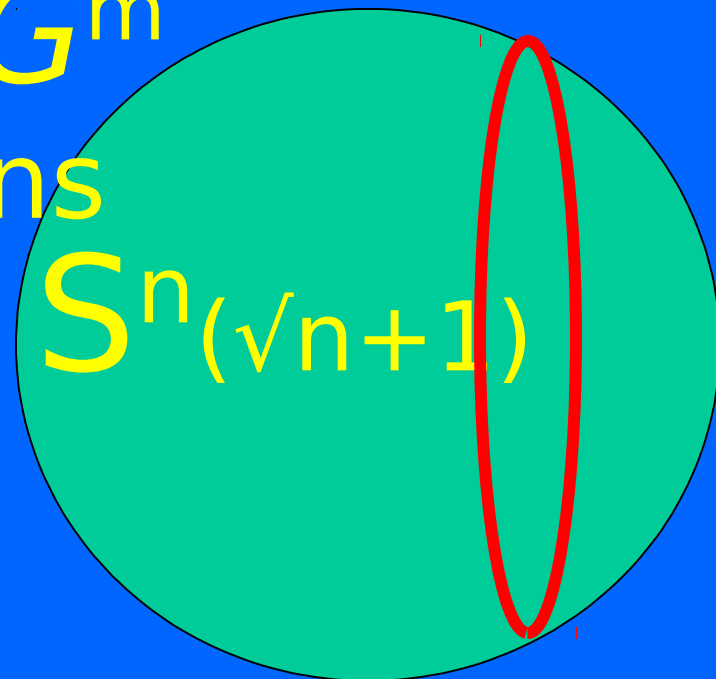
Sudakov-Tsirel'son,  
Borell '75

Carlen-Kerce '01



Used in Perelman's proof of Poincaré

ORIGINAL PROOF:  $G^m$   
is limit of projections  
of high-dim'l  
spheres.

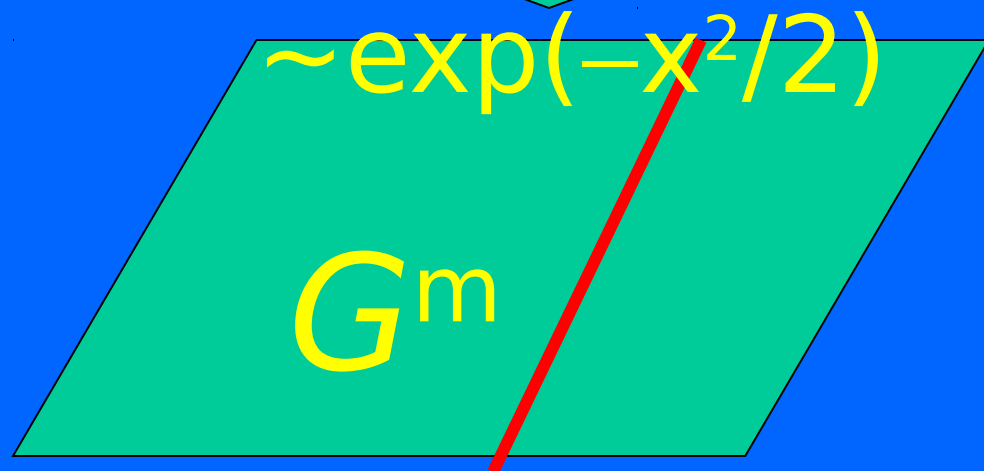


Mehler 1856,  
not Poincaré

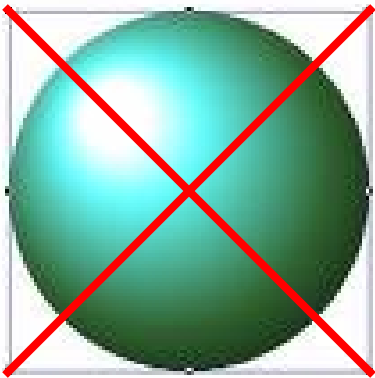
as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$\sim \exp(-x^2/2)$

Sudakov-Tsirel'son,  
Borell '75



Gauss Space  $G^n$   
replaces  $S^n$  as the  
model



« Manifolds with Density

Isoperimetric Inequality in Complement of Mean Convex Set Fails at Banff »

## Manifolds with Density: Fuller References

16th March 2010, 09:09 am

### SELECTED PUBLICATIONS IN THE HISTORY OF MANIFOLDS WITH DENSITY: ...

[1959] A. J. Stam, Some inequalities satisfied by the quantities of information of Fisher and Shannon, *Indo. Control* 2 (1959), 101–112, Eqn. 2.3. Gives a version of Gaussian log–Sobolev inequality, used by Perelman, often attributed to Gross [1975] or sometimes Federbush [1969].

[2018] Hiroki Nakajima, Takashi Shioya, Isoperimetric rigidity and distributions of 1-Lipschitz functions, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1801.01302>

[2018] Antonio Bueno, Translating solitons of the mean curvature flow in the space  $\mathbb{H}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$ , <https://arxiv.org/abs/1803.02783>

[2018] Elia Bruè, Daniele Semola, Regularity of Lagrangian flows over  $\text{RCD}^*(K, N)$  spaces, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1803.04387>

[2018] Sebastiano Don, Davide Vittone, A compactness result for BV functions in metric spaces, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1803.07545>

[2018] Debora Impera, Michele Rimoldi, Alessandro Savo, Index and first Betti number of  $f$ -minimal hypersurfaces and self-shrinkers, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1803.08268v1>

[2018] Daisuke Kazukawa, A new condition for convergence of energy functionals and stability of lower Ricci curvature bound, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1804.00407>

[2018] Elia Bruè, Daniele Semola, Constancy of the dimension for  $\text{RCD}(K, N)$  spaces via regularity of Lagrangian flows, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1804.07128>

[2018] Shouhei Honda, Bakry–Émery conditions on almost smooth metric measure spaces, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1804.07043>

[2018] Ilaria Mondello (LAMA), J. Bertrand (IMT), C Ketterer, T. Richard (LAMA), Stratified spaces and synthetic Ricci curvature bounds, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1804.08870>

[2018] Antoni Kijowski, Characterization of mean value harmonic functions on norm induced metric measure spaces with weighted Lebesgue measure, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1804.10005>. "We conclude with a remarkable observation that strongly harmonic functions in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  possess the mean value property with respect to infinitely many weight functions obtained from a given weight."

[2018] Angelo Alvino, Friedemann Brock, Francesco Chiacchio, Anna Mercaldo, Maria Rosaria Posteraro, The isoperimetric problem for a class of non-radial weights and applications, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.02518v1>

[2018] Jhovanny Muñoz Posso, A generalization of Sobolev trace inequality and Escobar–Riemann mapping type problem on smooth metric measure spaces, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.03694> [part of PhD thesis under Fernando Codá Marques]



Welcome to my blog. I also have a blog at the [Huffington Post](#) and some posts on the math blog.

Frank Morgan

### RECENT POSTS

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- [Medgar Evers uses TOC to Stem Attrition](#)
- [New Optimal Pentagonal Tilings](#)
- [Berkshire Community College](#)
- [Algebra Student Exhorts his Peers to Make the Most of their Opportunities](#)

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**Official U.S. Time**

**06:44:39 a.m.**

◀ **Eastern (DST)** ▶

12-hr 24-hr

network delay: 1.5 s

**MARCH 2010**

| M | T | W  | T  | F  | S  | S  |
|---|---|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |



**Robert McCann**  
**U Toronto**



**Emanuel Milman**  
**Technion**



# “Limits of manifolds”

**Robert McCann**  
**U Toronto**

A portrait of Emanuel Milman, a man with long, curly hair, wearing a light-colored shirt. The image is dimly lit and appears to be a video frame.

**Emanuel Milman**  
**Technion**



**Robert McCann**  
**U Toronto**

**“Projection  
...  
Gaussian”**



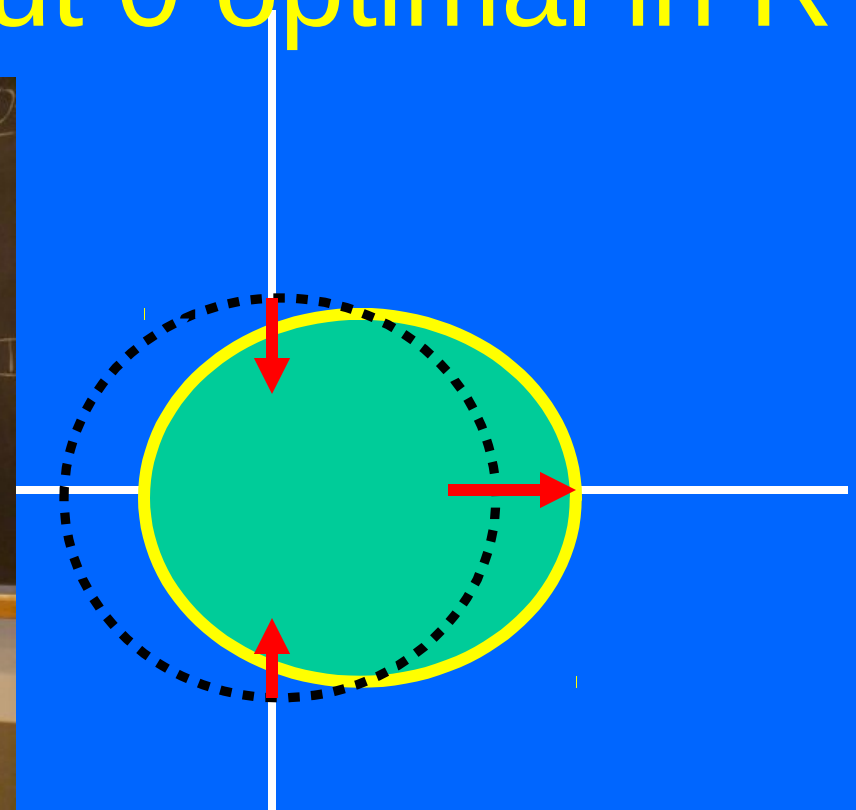
**Emanuel Milman**  
**Technion**

# Log-convex Density Theorem

(Gregory Chambers 2018? Brakke conj 2004).

$\text{Log}(\Psi(r))$  convex (e.g.  $\exp +r^2$ )

$\Rightarrow$  Spheres about 0 optimal in  $\mathbb{R}^n$







**Greg Chambers**



**Greg Chambers**

**“...symmetry...spiral  
...very delicate  
estimates...”**

# *DOUBLE BUBBLE* IN $R^n$

Enclose and separate *two*  
given volumes with  
minimum perimeter.

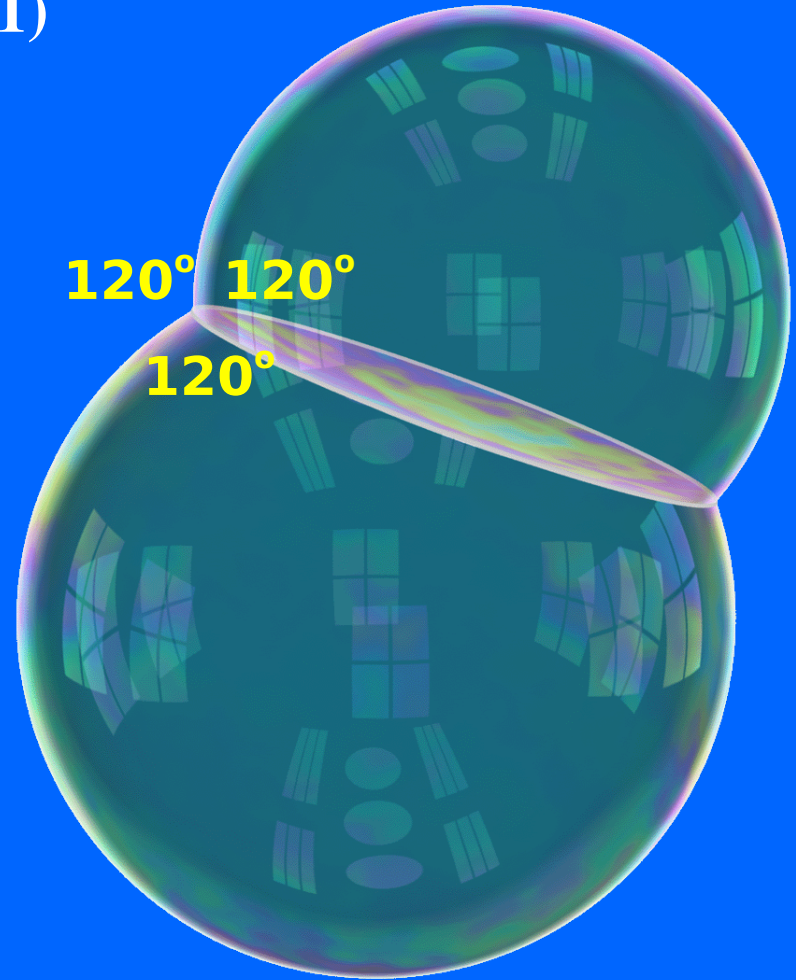
The image features two overlapping spheres, one slightly larger than the other, positioned on the right side of the slide. They are rendered with a semi-transparent, iridescent material that shows internal reflections and refractions, giving them a 3D, glass-like appearance. The spheres overlap in the center, with the larger one in the foreground and the smaller one behind it.

# DOUBLE BUBBLE CONJECTURE

(Joel Foisy undergraduate thesis '91)



**THE STANDARD  
DOUBLE BUBBLE IS  
THE MOST  
EFFICIENT SHAPE.**

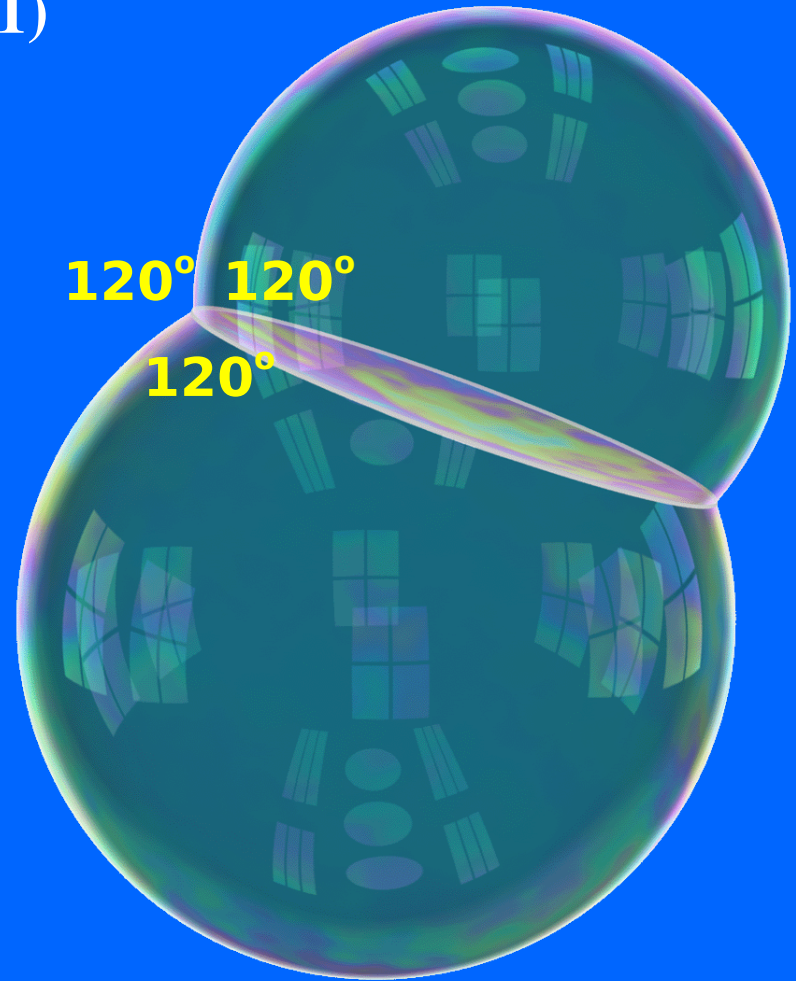


# DOUBLE BUBBLE CONJECTURE

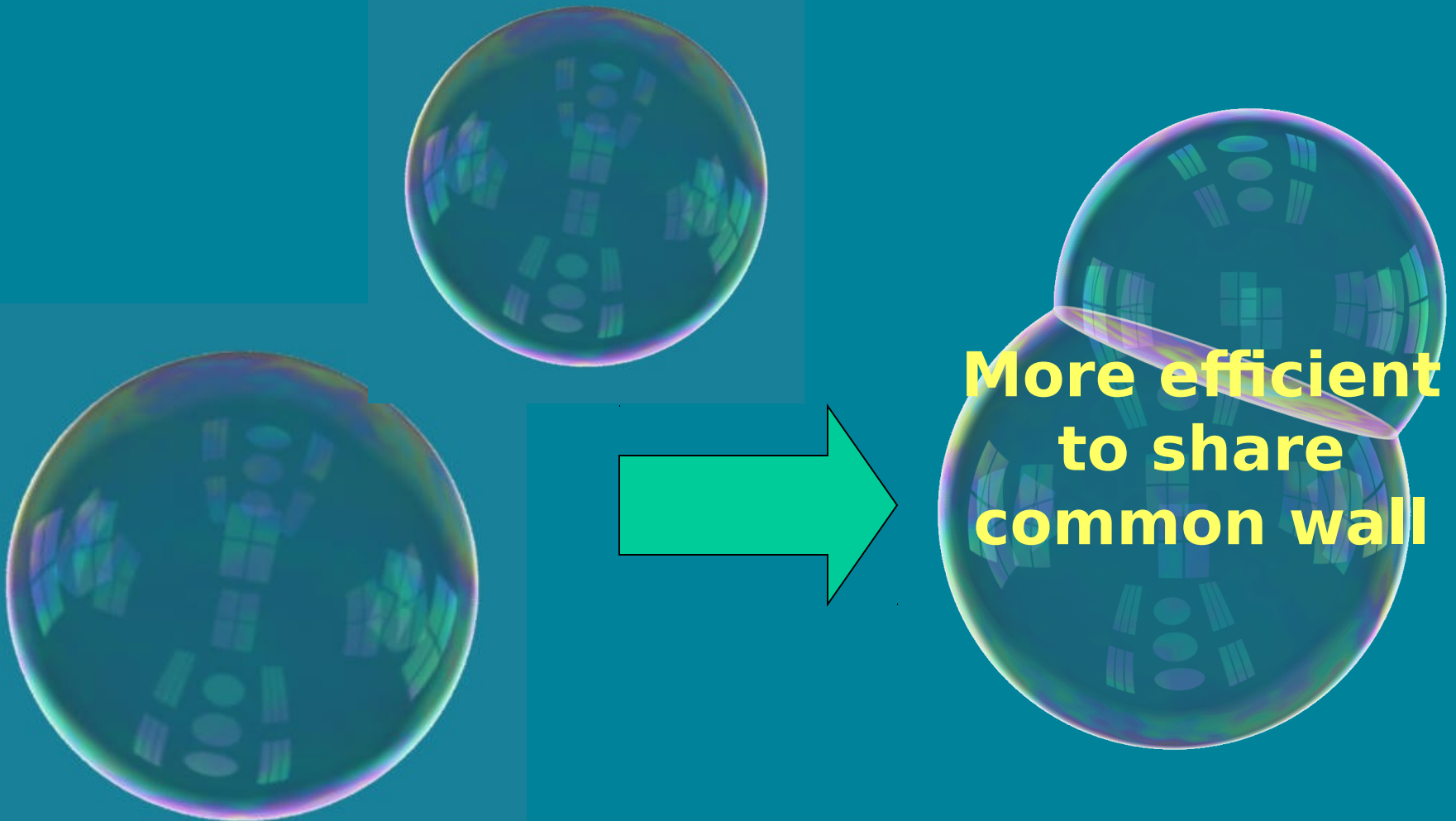
(Joel Foisy undergraduate thesis '91)



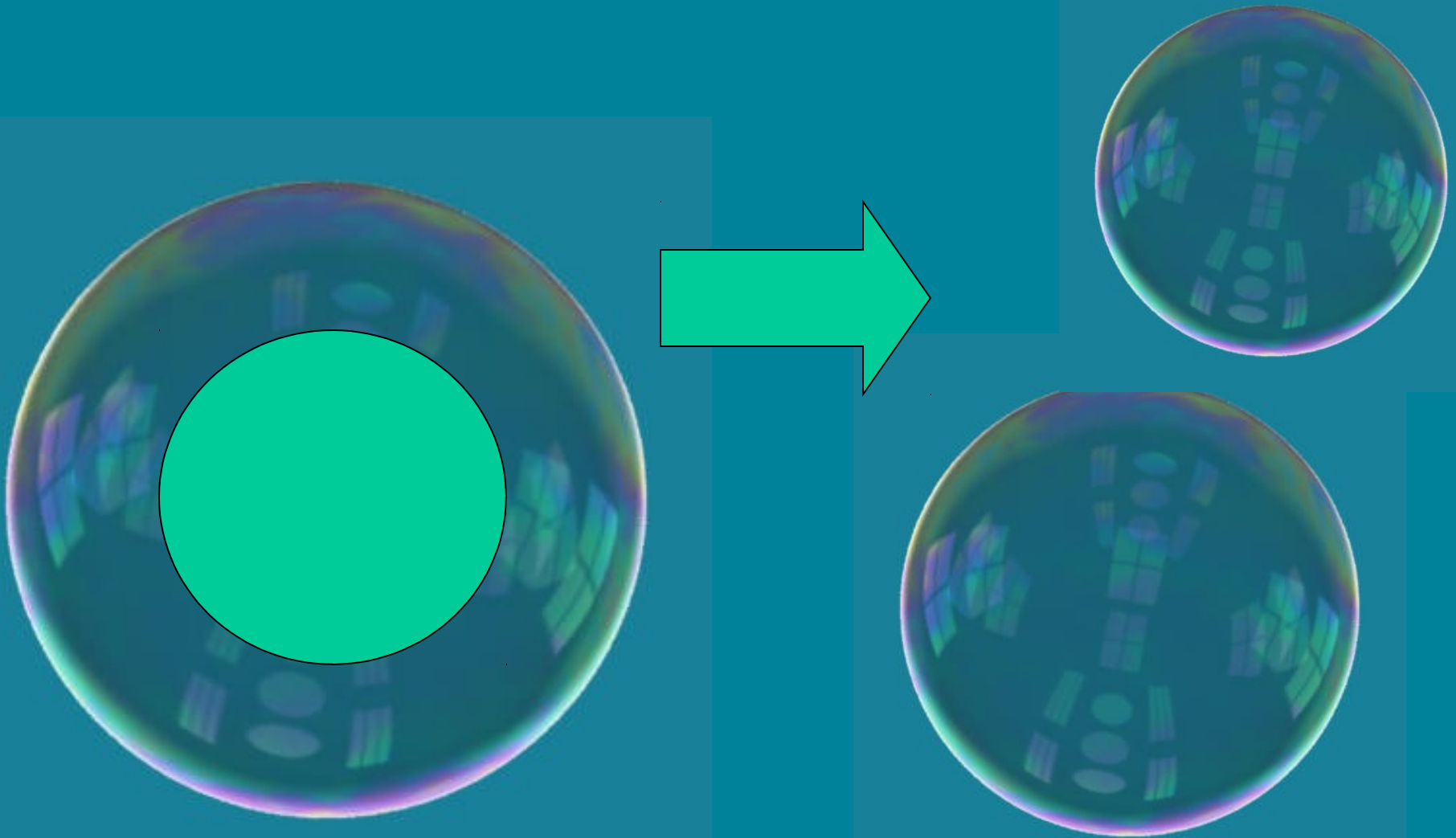
**THE STANDARD  
DOUBLE BUBBLE IS  
THE MOST  
EFFICIENT SHAPE.**



# TWO SEPARATE BUBBLES ARE WASTEFUL:

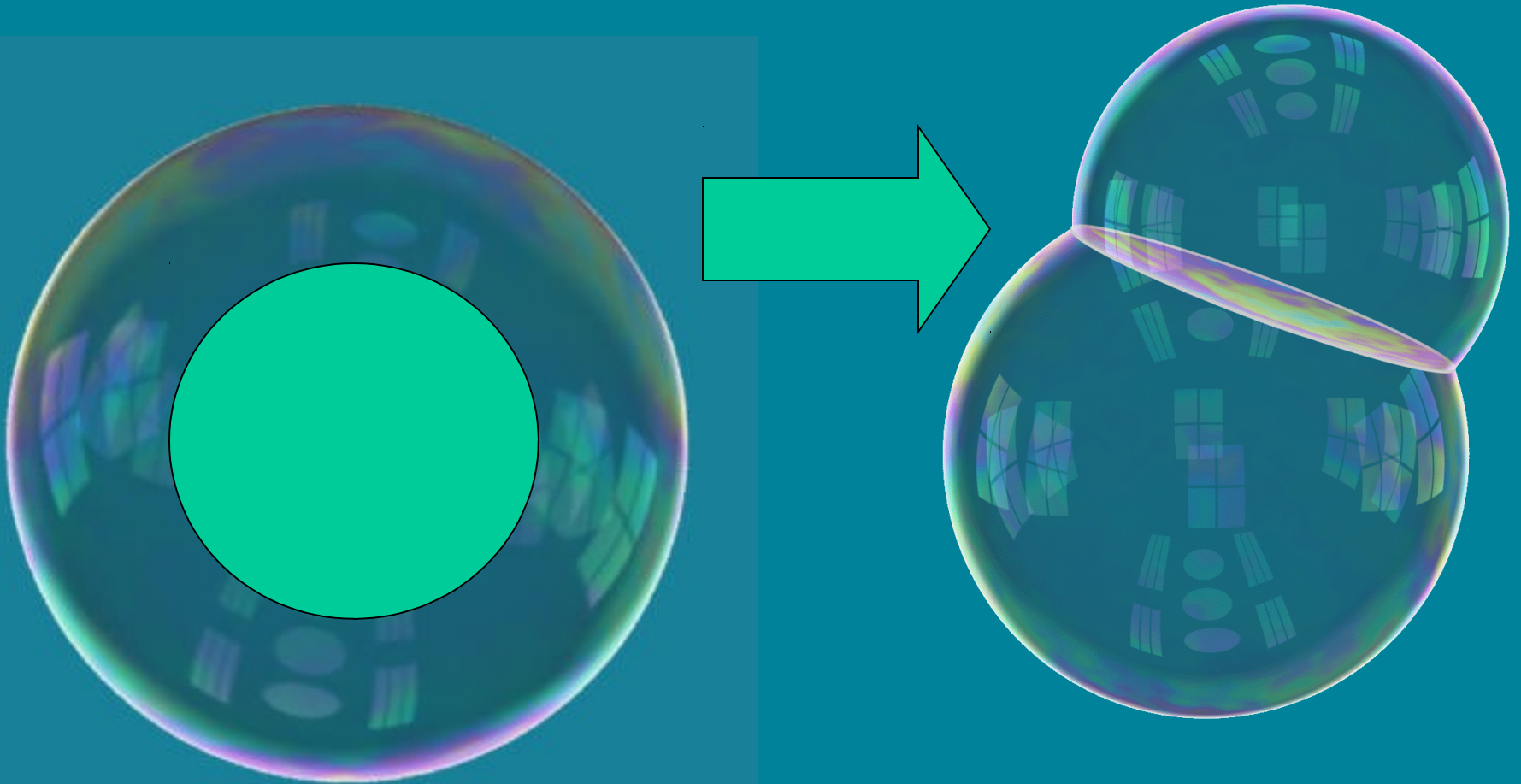


# BUBBLE IN A BUBBLE EVEN WORSE:



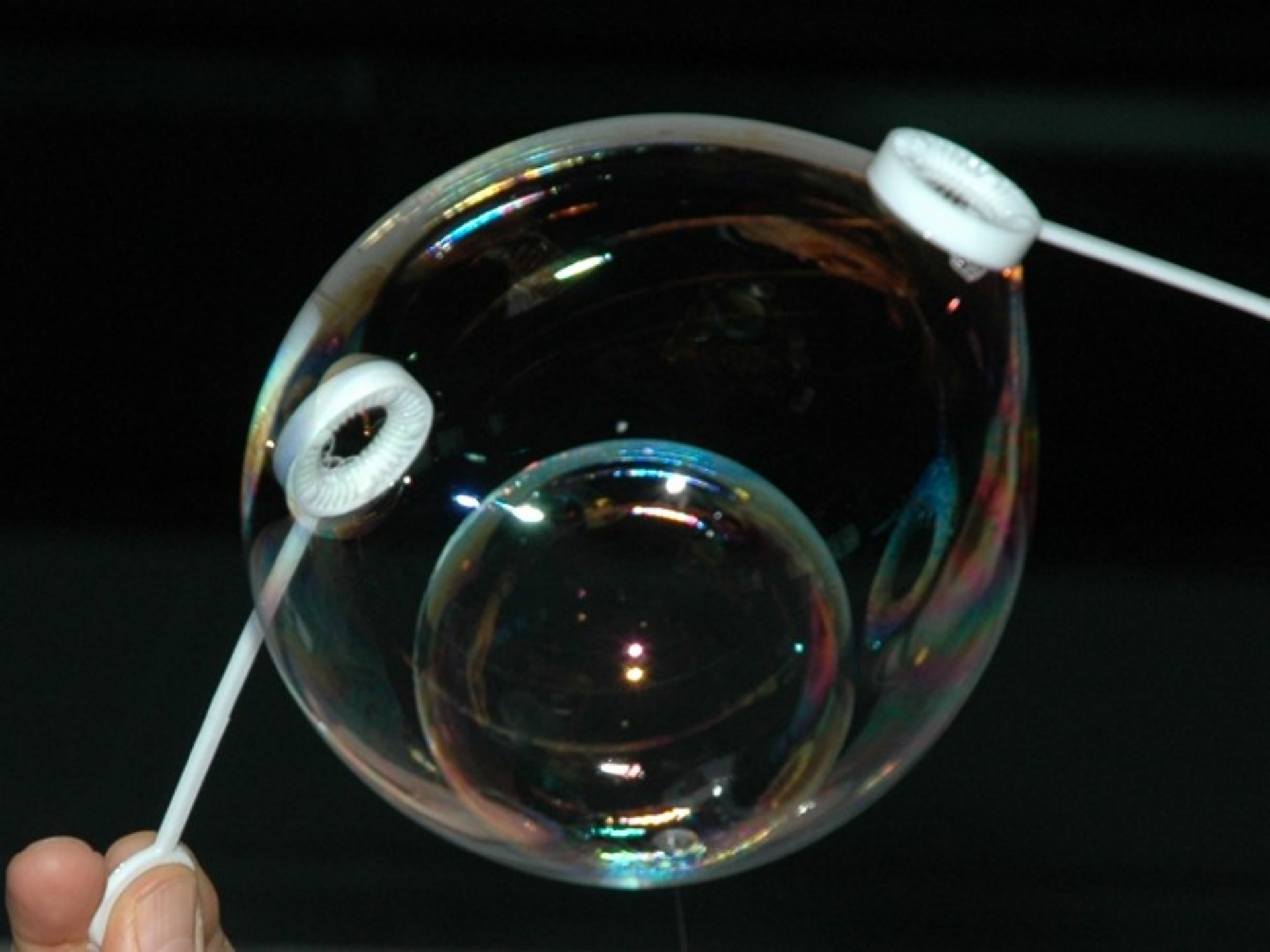
# BUBBLE IN A BUBBLE

## EVEN WORSE:



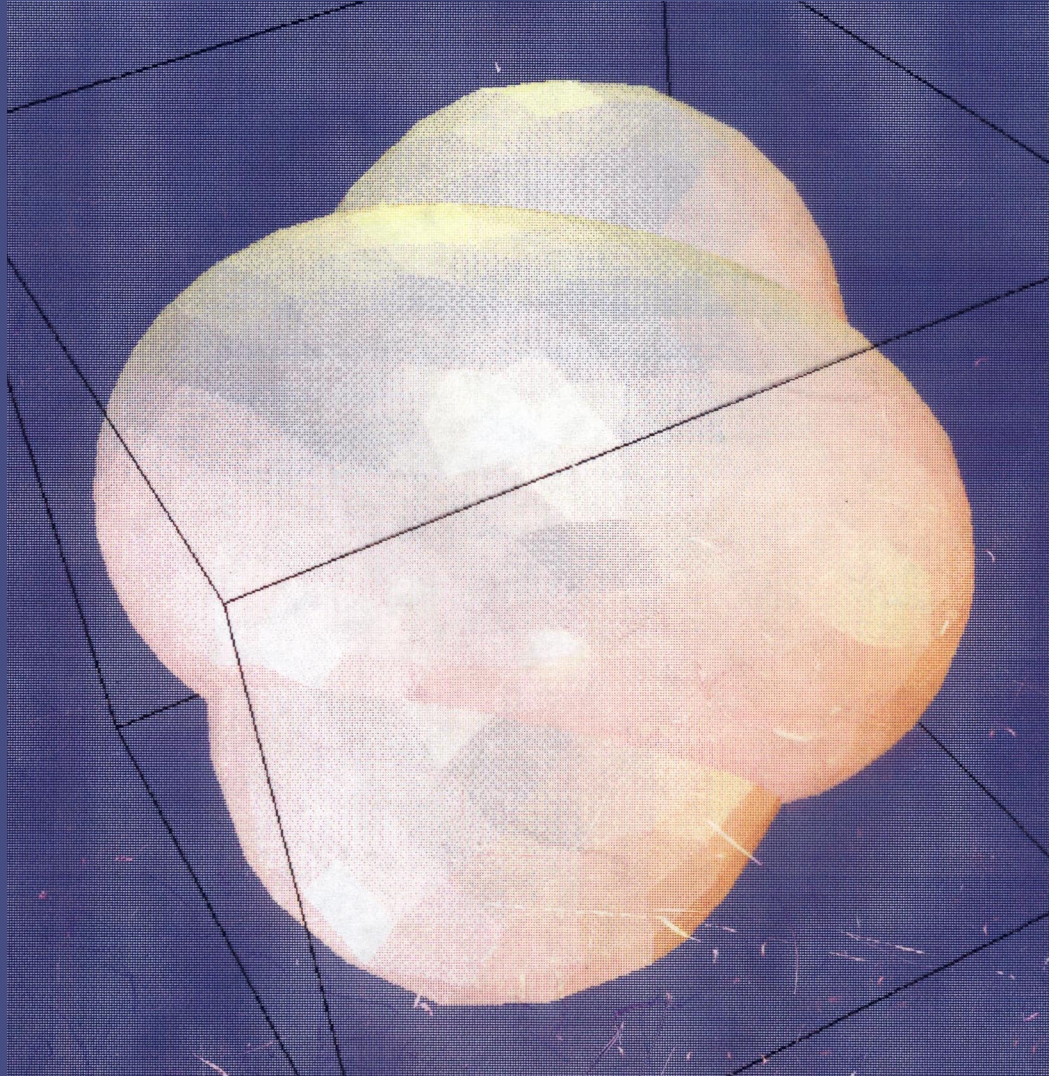






# NONSTANDARD DOUBLE BUBBLE

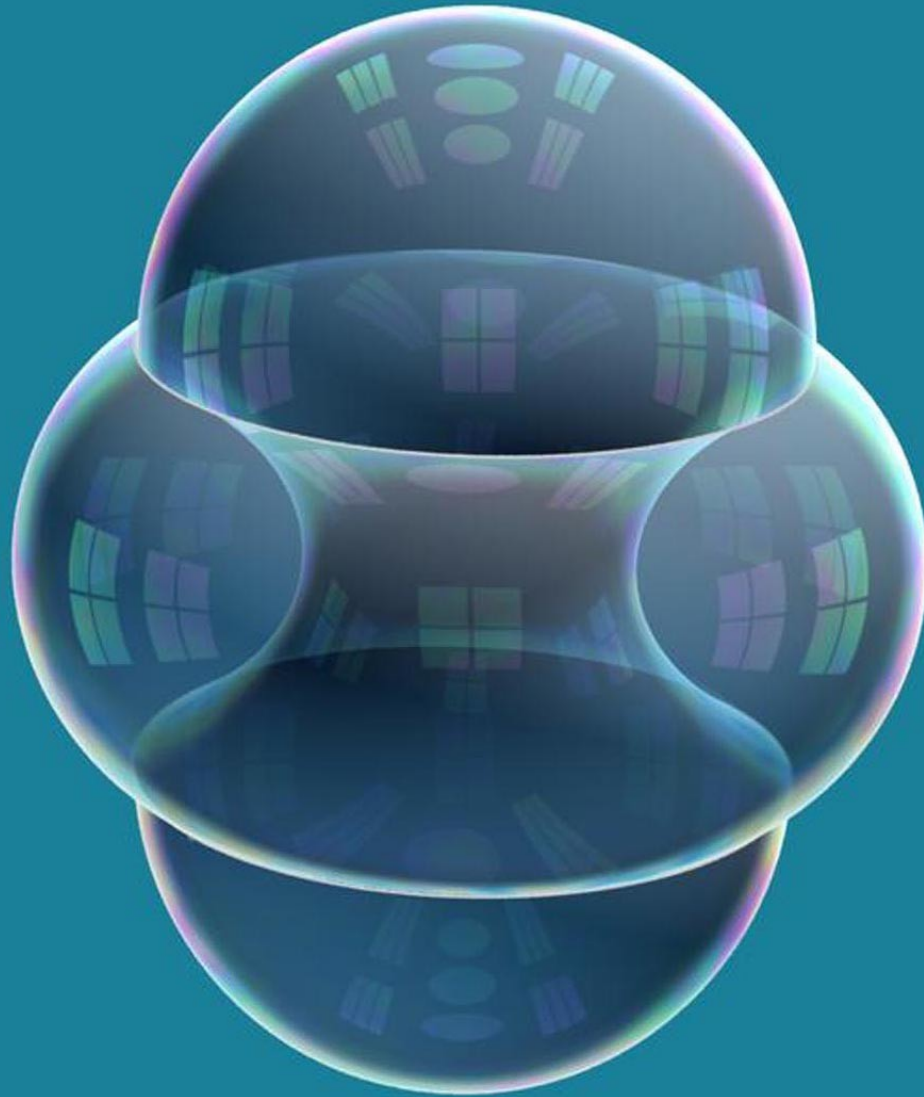
(UNSTABLE—MORE AREA)



Computer  
simulation by  
John M  
Sullivan

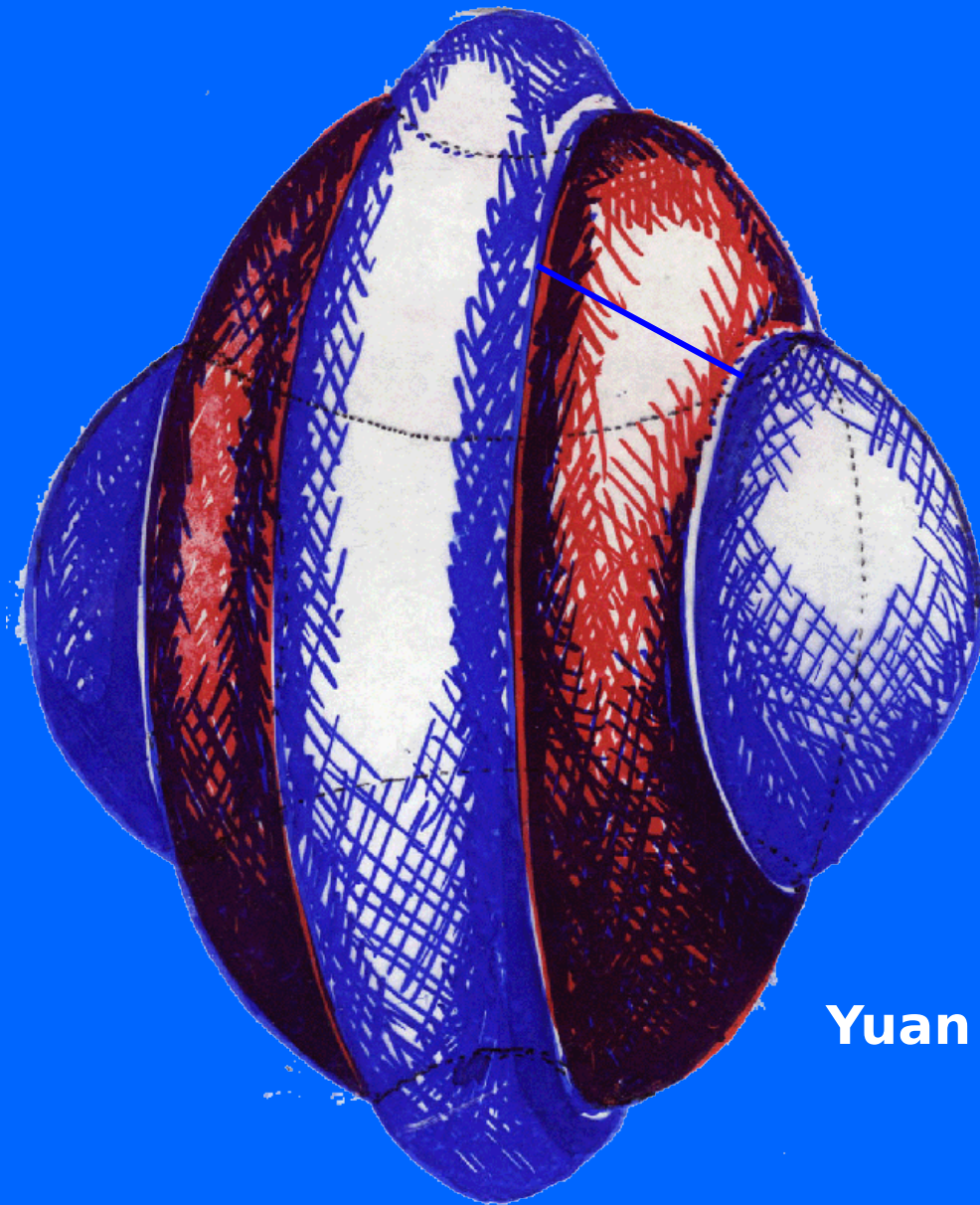
# NONSTANDARD DOUBLE BUBBLE

(UNSTABLE—MORE AREA)



**John M  
Sullivan**

# NONSTANDARD DOUBLE BUBBLE



**Yuan Y Lai**

# NONSTANDARD DOUBLE BUBBLE



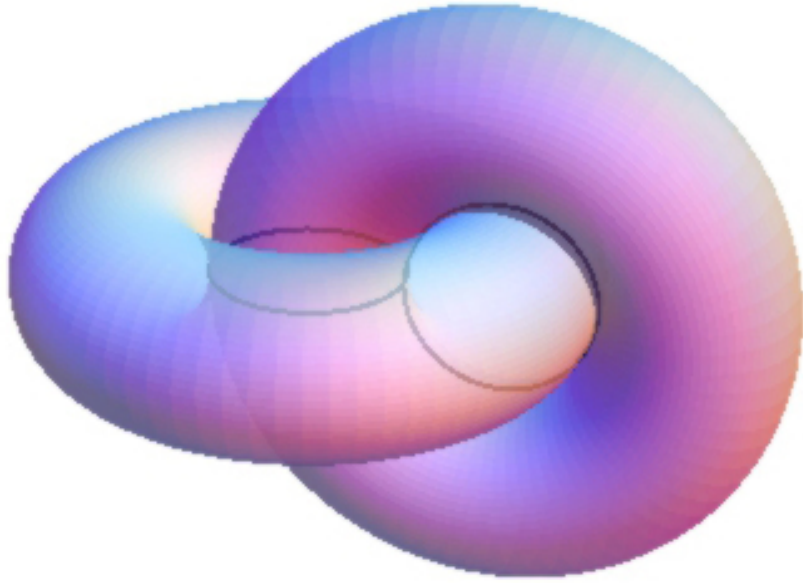
Yuan Y Lai

# NONSTANDARD DOUBLE BUBBLES

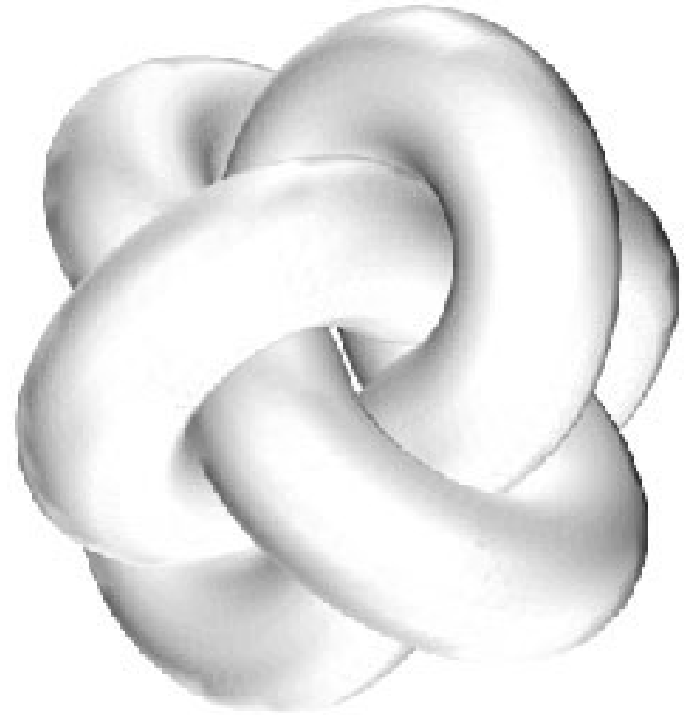


**Jason Canterella and John M. Sullivan**

# NONSTANDARD DOUBLE BUBBLES



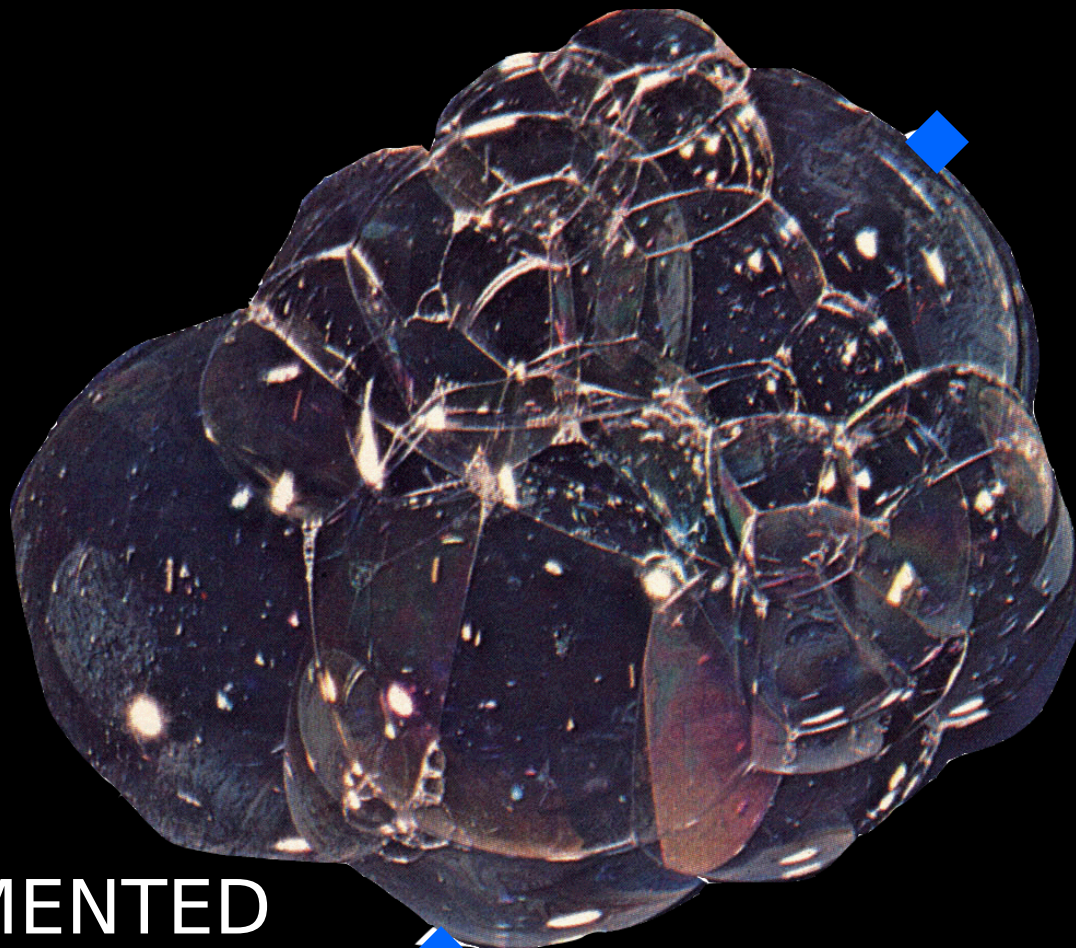
[mathoverflow.net/questions/70888/shortest-paths-on-linked-tori](https://mathoverflow.net/questions/70888/shortest-paths-on-linked-tori)



**Jason Canterella**  
**John M. Sullivan**



# NONSTANDARD DOUBLE BUBBLE

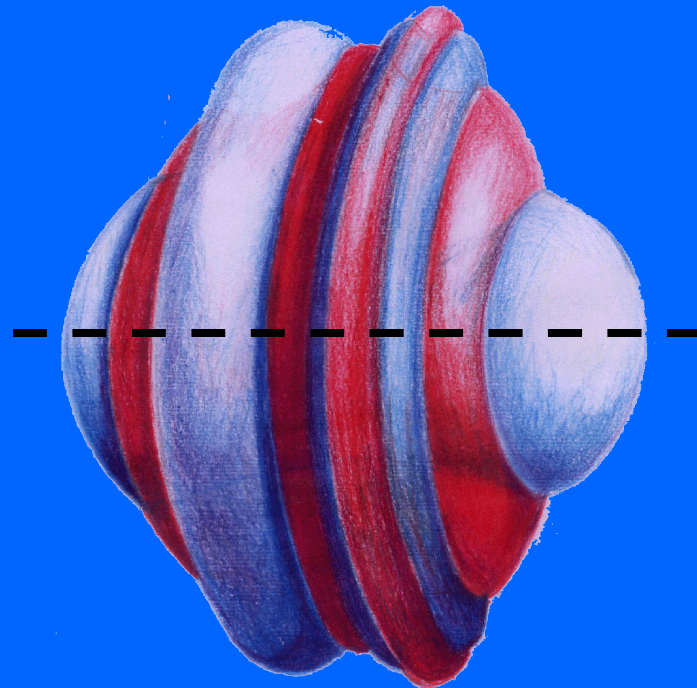
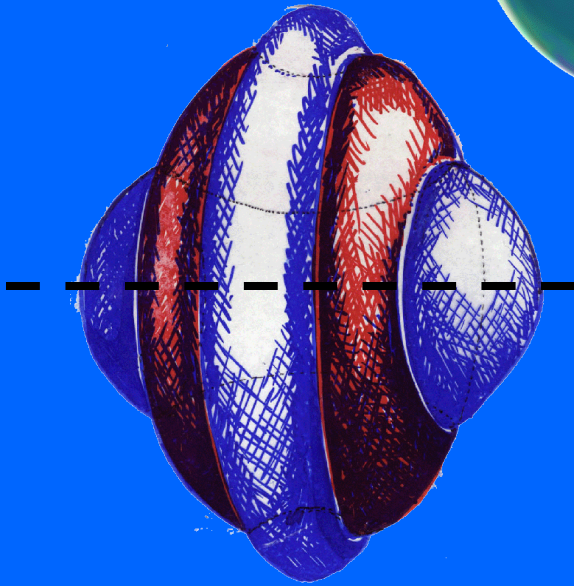
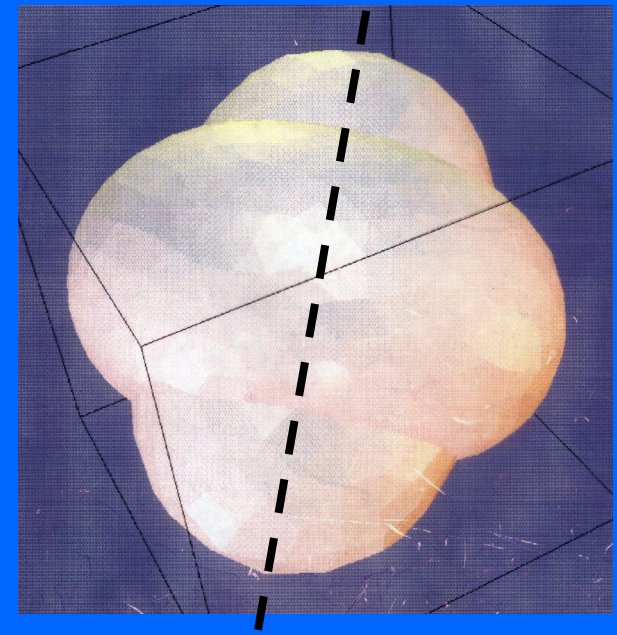
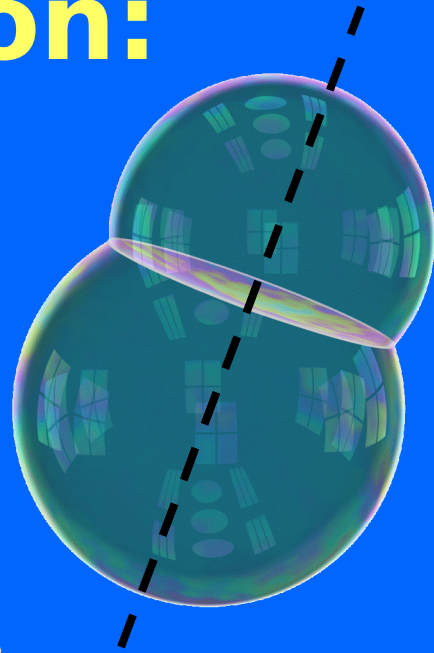


FRAGMENTED

F. Goro

EMPTY SPACE INSIDE??

# Prop. Surface of revolution:

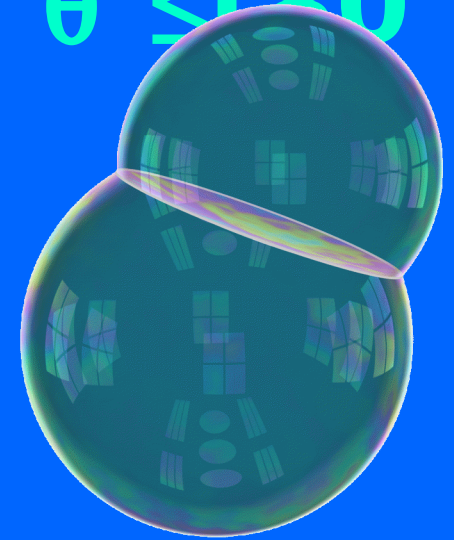


# PROOF SURF OF REVOLUTION

**LEMMA.** Some vertical plane splits both volumes in half.

**PROOF.** Consider vertical planes  $P_\theta$  splitting 1st volume in half,  $0 \leq \theta \leq 180^\circ$

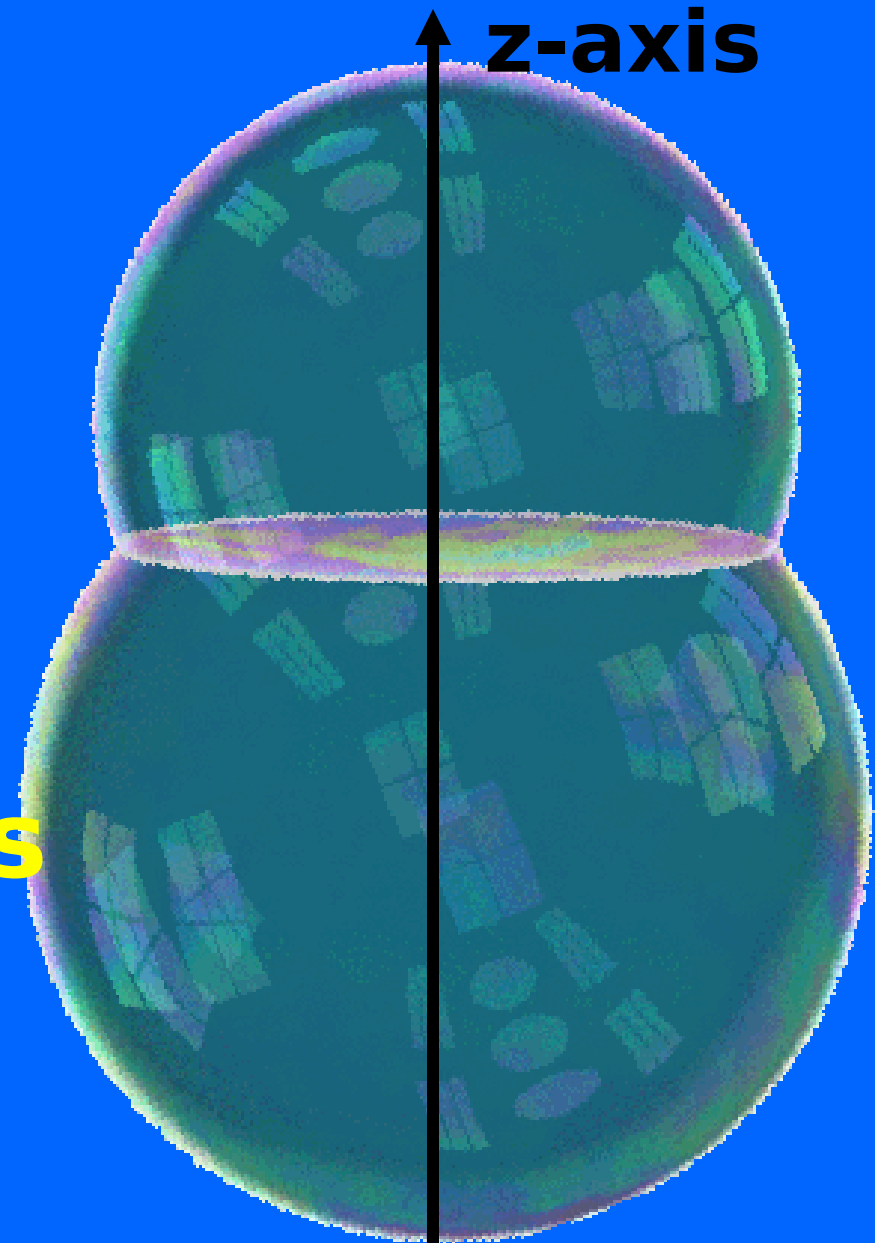
By the “Intermediate Value Theorem,” one splits the 2nd



# ONE PLANE SPLITS BOTH VOLTS IN HALF

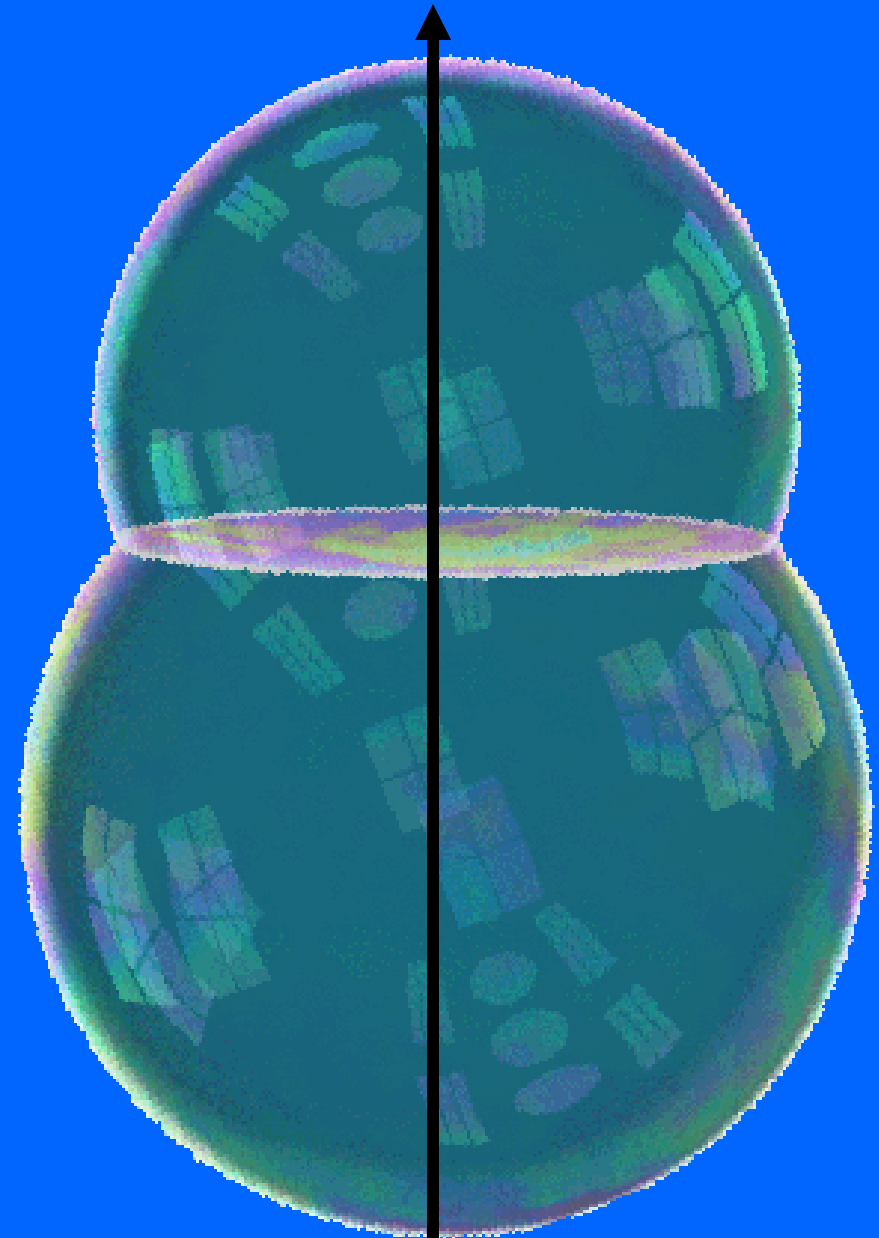
*Cor.* May  
assume  $x$ - $z$   
and  $y$ - $z$  planes  
split volumes  
in half.

Then  $z$ -axis turns  
out to be axis of  
revolution.



**AXIS PLANES SPLIT BOTH VOLTS  
IN HALF**

***Cor 2.* May  
assume  
symmetry  
under  
 $x \rightarrow x, y \rightarrow y,$   
 $180^\circ$   
rotation.**



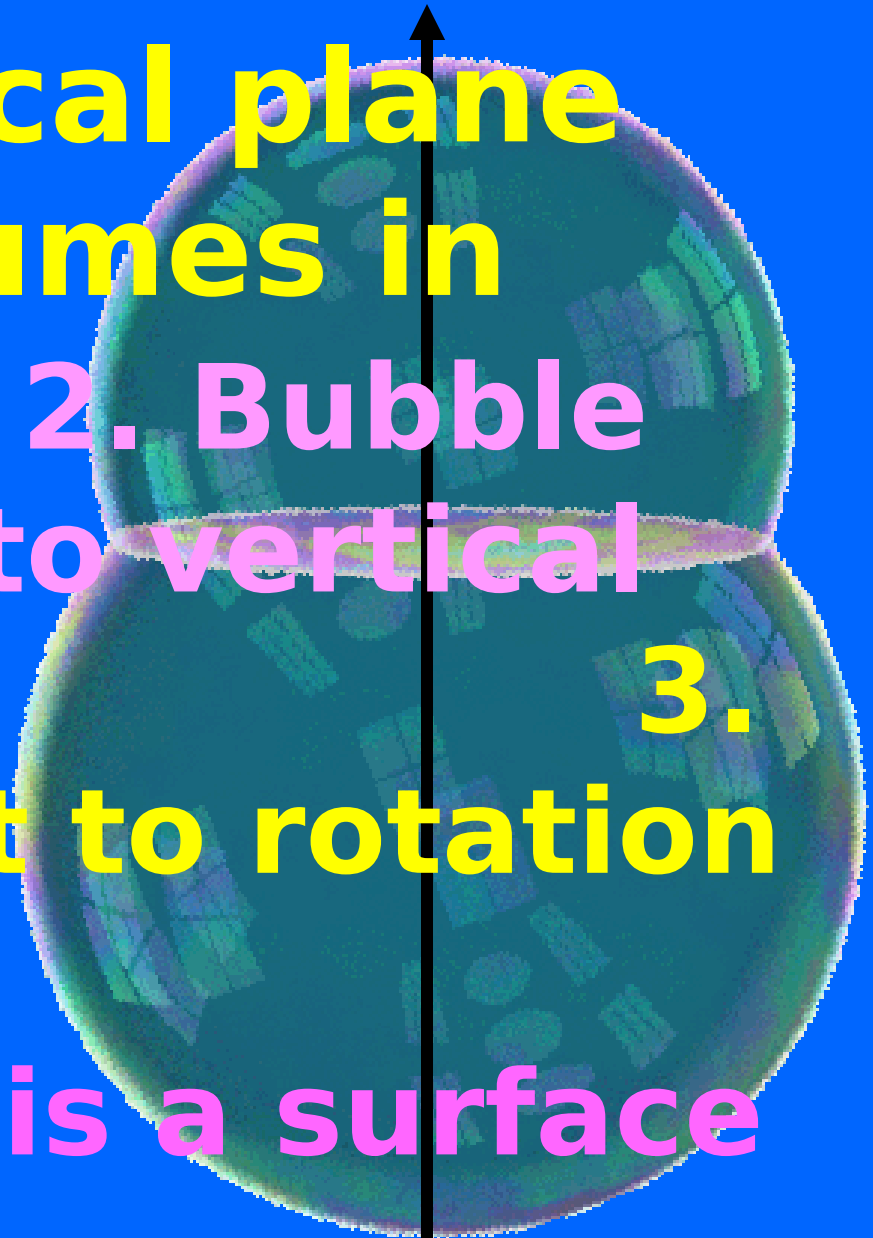
**180° SYMMETRY =>**

**1. Every vertical plane splits the volumes in half.**

**2. Bubble perpendicular to vertical planes.**

**3. Bubble tangent to rotation vectorfield.**

**4. Bubble is a surface of revolution.**

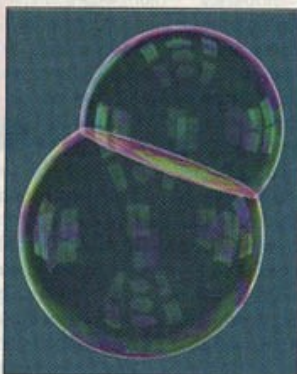


# Rounding Out Solutions to Three Conjectures

Three long-standing puzzles involving spherical bodies—the configuration of double bubbles, stable orbits of three stars, and random packing of spheres in a box—have all been solved

## Why Double Bubbles Form the Way They Do

Need to entertain a child? Try blowing soap bubbles. Need to keep a mathematician busy? Just ask why bubbles take the shapes they do. Individual soap bubbles, of course, are spherical, and for a very simple reason: Among all surfaces that enclose a given volume, the sphere has the least area (and in the grand scheme of things, nature inclines toward such minima). On the other hand, when two soap bubbles come together, they form a “double bubble,” a simple complex of three partial spheres: two on the outside, with the third serving as a wall between the two compartments. Scientists have long considered it obvious that double bubbles behave this way for the same minimum-seeking reason—because no other shape encloses two given volumes with less total surface area. But mathematicians have countered with their usual vexing question: Where’s the proof?



**Soap solution.** Mathematicians prove that nature’s way of forming

Now they don’t. In 1992, an international team of four mathematicians has announced a proof of the double bubble conjecture. By honing a new technique for analyzing the stability of competing shapes, Michael Hutchings of Stanford University, Frank Morgan of Williams College in Williamstown, Massachusetts, and Antonio Ritoré and Antonio Ros of the University of Granada in Spain show that only the standard shape is truly minimal—any other, supposedly area-minimizing

shape can be ever so slightly twisted into a shape with even less area, a contradiction which rules out these other candidates.

What other shape could two bubbles possibly take? One candidate—or class of candidates—has one bubble wrapped around the other like an inner tube. But it could be even worse: Mathematically, there’s no objection to splitting a volume into two separate pieces, so it’s possible that siphoning off a bit of the central volume and reinstalling it as a “belt” around the inner tube would actually reduce the total surface area. And conceivably, then, siphoning a bit of the inner tube and placing it as a band around the outer tube would lead to smaller surface area, and so forth. The proof even any obvious alternative. The true, area-minimizing double bubble is “empty chambers,” a closed region that is long to either side.

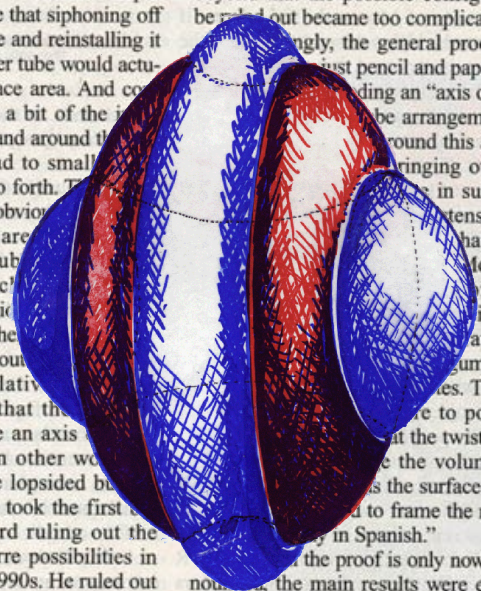
Just about any other shape that’s (relatively) simple to prove is that the shape must have an axis of symmetry—in other words, it can’t have lopsided bulges. Hutchings took the first step toward ruling out the more bizarre possibilities in the early 1990s. He ruled out empty chambers and showed that the larger volume must be a single piece. Besides the standard double bubble, his results limited the possibilities to ones consisting of a large inner tube around a small central region, perhaps with a set of one or more belts outside. Hutchings also found formulas that predict the number of belts, as a function of the ratio of the two volumes. In particular, if the two volumes are equal, or even nearly equal, there can be no belts, so

the only alternative is a single inner tube around a central region.

Based on Hutchings’s work, in 1995 Joel Hass of the University of California (UC), Davis, and Roger Schlafly, now at UC Santa Cruz, proved the double bubble conjecture for the equal-volume case. Their proof used computer calculations to show that any inner tube arrangement can be replaced by another with smaller area. “Ours was a comparison method,” Hass explains. He and Schlafly found they could extend their results for volume ratios up to around 7:1, but beyond that the possible configurations to be ruled out became too complicated.

Surprisingly, the general proof requires just pencil and paper. The key is finding an “axis of instability” in the arrangement. Twist around this axis—with a wash-yet, and so forth. The proof even any obvious alternative. The true, area-minimizing double bubble is “empty chambers,” a closed region that is long to either side.

Just about any other shape that’s (relatively) simple to prove is that the shape must have an axis of symmetry—in other words, it can’t have lopsided bulges. Hutchings took the first step toward ruling out the more bizarre possibilities in the early 1990s. He ruled out empty chambers and showed that the larger volume must be a single piece. Besides the standard double bubble, his results limited the possibilities to ones consisting of a large inner tube around a small central region, perhaps with a set of one or more belts outside. Hutchings also found formulas that predict the number of belts, as a function of the ratio of the two volumes. In particular, if the two volumes are equal, or even nearly equal, there can be no belts, so



NOT!

STANDARD with regions DISCONNECTED  
DOUBLE with regions DISCONNECTED  
BUBBLE BEST

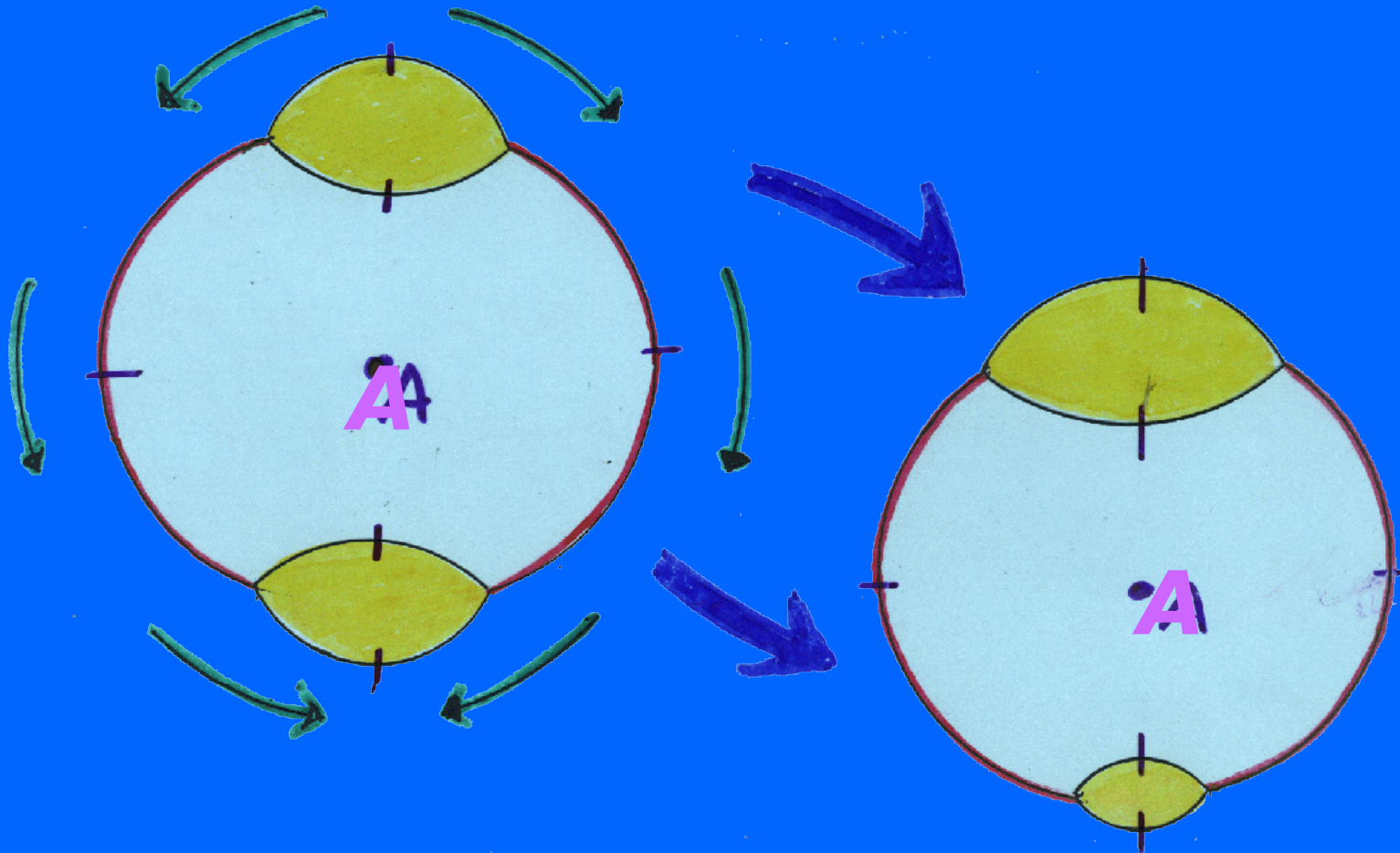
# DBL BUB CONJ PROVED

by Hutchings, Morgan, Ritoré, and Ros

*Annals Math.*  
March 2002

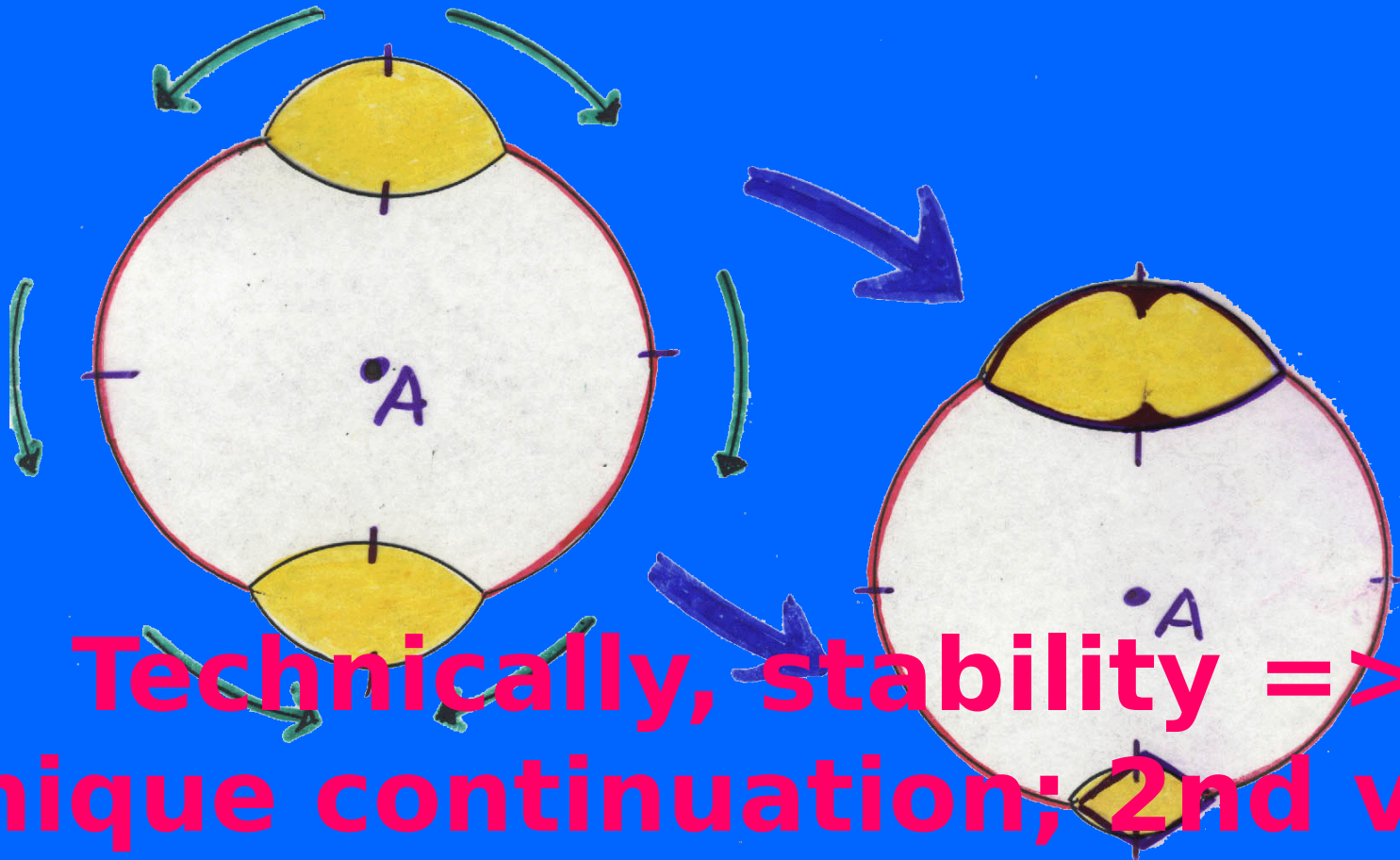
# IDEA OF PROOF IF EACH REGION CONNECTED ("INSTABILITY")

ROTATE TWO "HALVES" OF BUBBLE IN DIFFERENT  
DIRECTIONS ABOUT CAREFULLY CHOSEN **AXIS A**  
TO PRESERVE VOLUMES





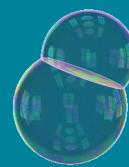
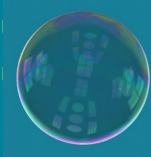
**IDEA OF PROOF IF EACH REGION  
CONNECTED ("INSTABILITY")  
SMOOTH KINKS TO REDUCE  
PERIMETER:**



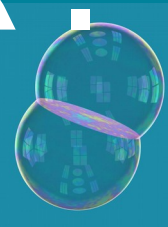
**Technically, stability  $\Rightarrow$   
unique continuation; 2nd varn  
formula**

**Thm (Hutchings). Region of volume fraction  $v$  connected if Hutchings function positive:**

$$F(v) = 2A(v/2) + A(1-v) + A(1) - 2A(v, 1-v)$$



**True for  $v > .2...$  in  $R^3$ .**



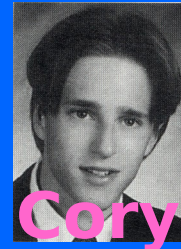
Michael Hutchings  
SMALL '92

“SMALL” UND RES  
GEOM GROUP 1999

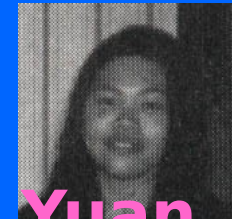
PROVED DBL BUB  
CONJ IN  $R^4$

&  $R^n$  for certain volumes for which  
larger bubble is connected

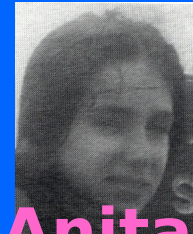
Ben Reichardt  
Cory Heilmann  
Yuan Lai  
Anita Spielman



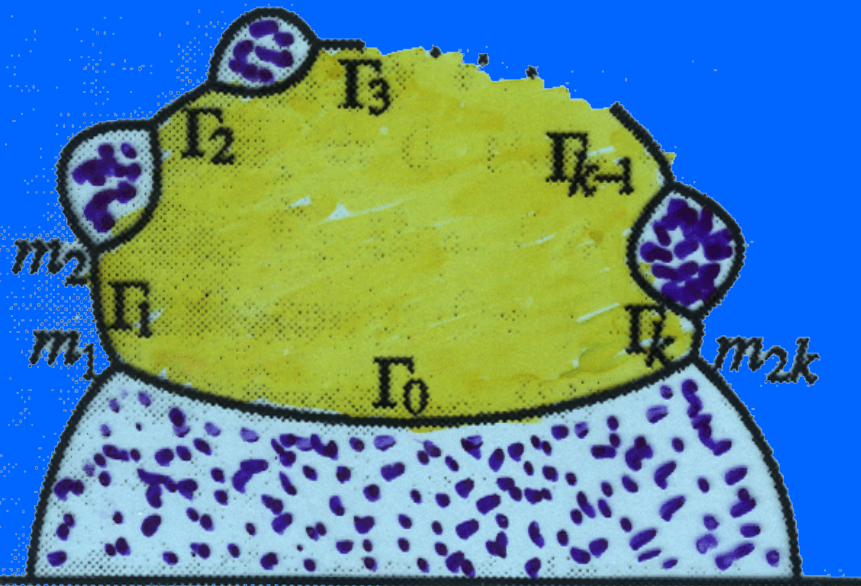
Cory



Yuan



Anita



Ben

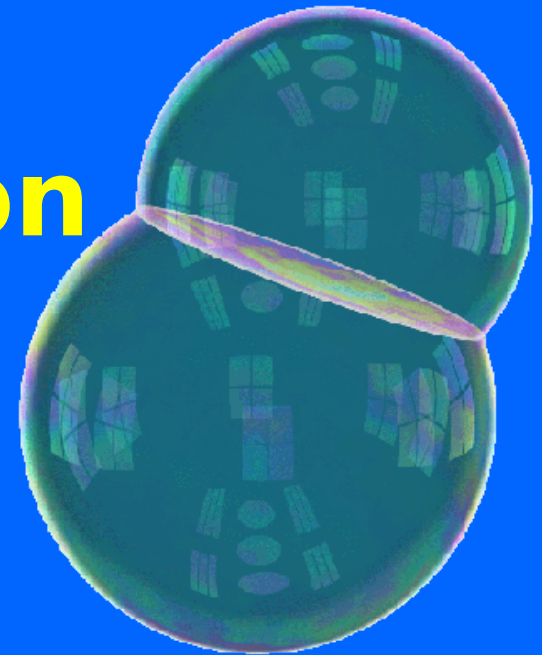
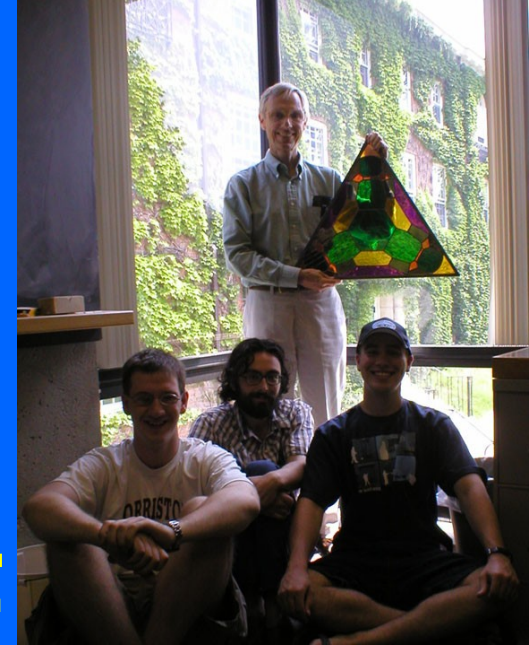
**EXTNS TO  $S^3$  &  $H^3$**  when both regions known connected

**GEOM GPS 2001-2003**

**For  $S^3$ , all  $\geq 10\%$ .**

**For  $H^3$ , smaller at least 85% of larger.**

**(Ensuring each region connected.)**



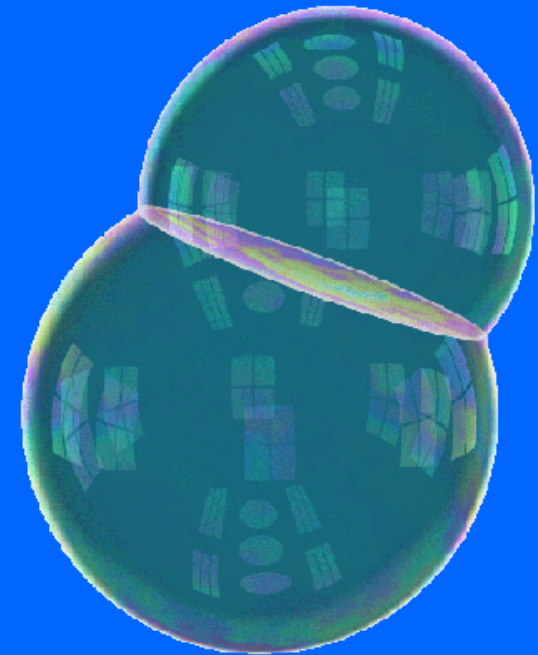
**EXTNS TO  $S^3$  &  $H^3$**

**GEOM GPS 2001-2003**

**For  $S^3$ , all  $\geq 10\%$ .**

**For  $H^3$ , smaller at least  
85% of larger.**

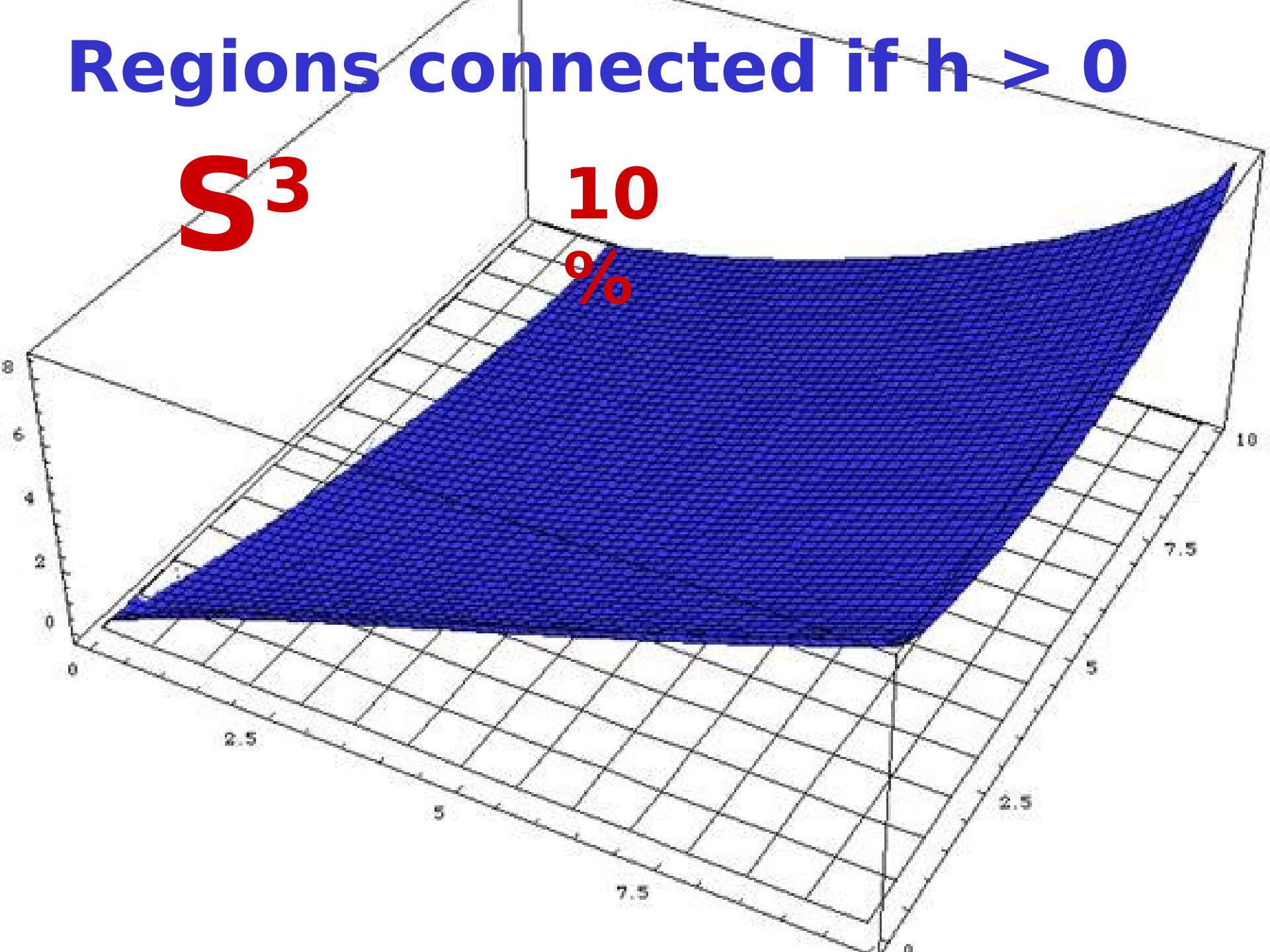
**Verify Hutchings  
inequality  
numerically to  
show each region  
connected.**



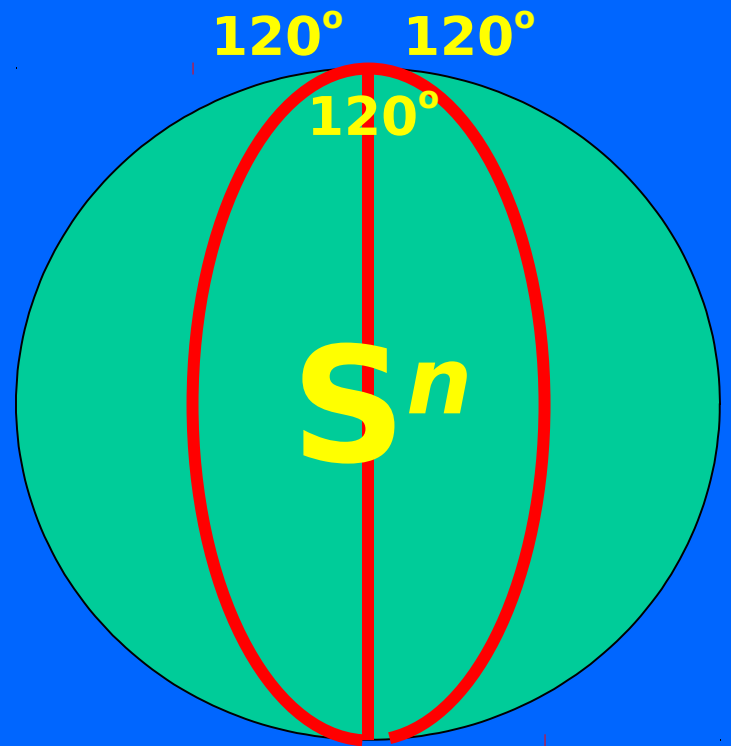
**Regions connected if  $h > 0$**

**$S^3$**

**10%**



$S^n$

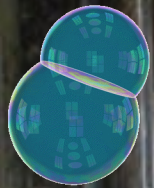
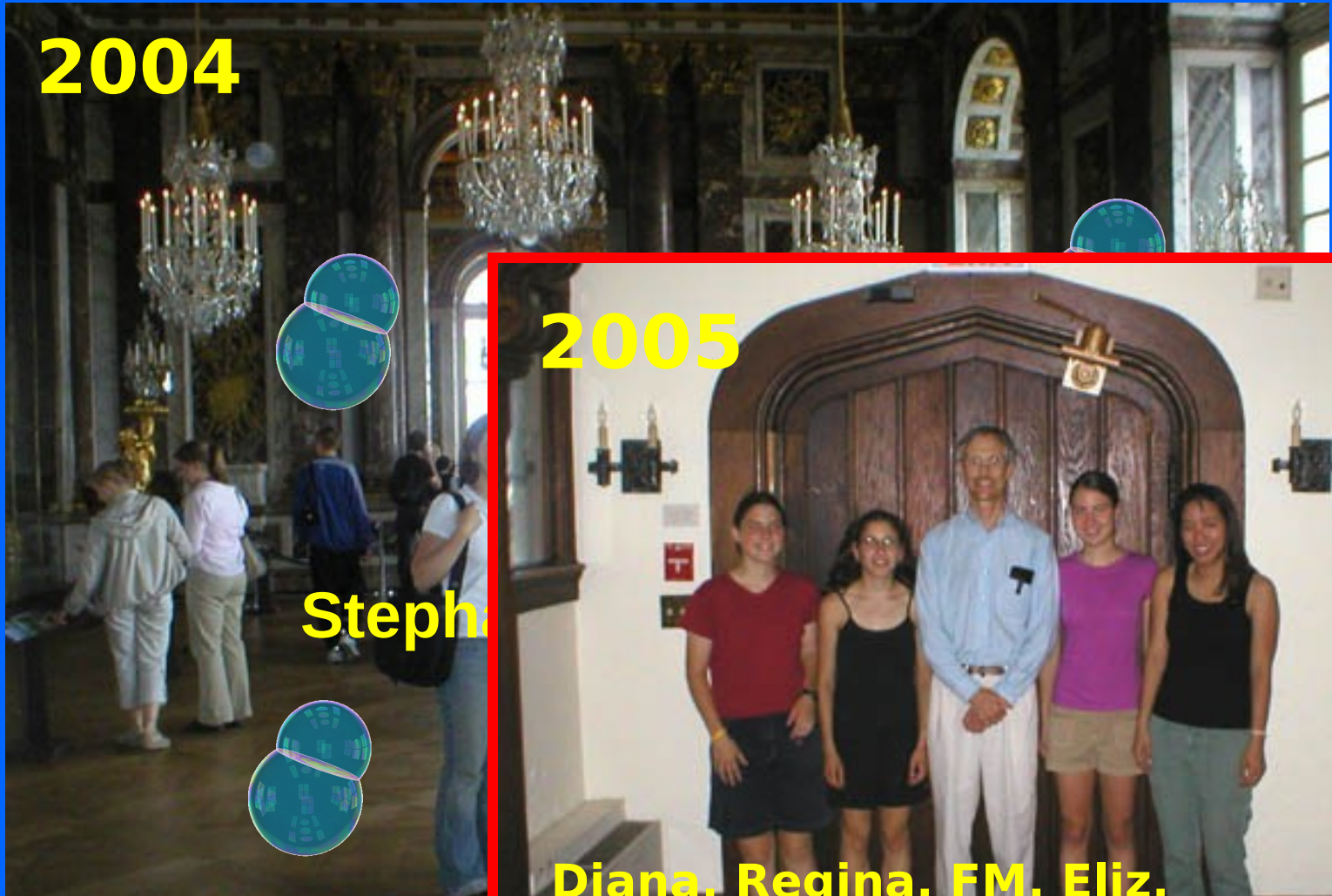


**Difficulty: how to verify  
crucial Hutchings  
inequality in all  $S^n$  ?**

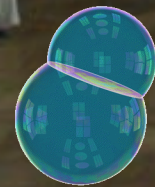
# GEOMETRY GROUPS 2004-5

## DOUBLE BUBBLES IN GAUSS SPACE

2004



Steph



VERSAILLES P

2005



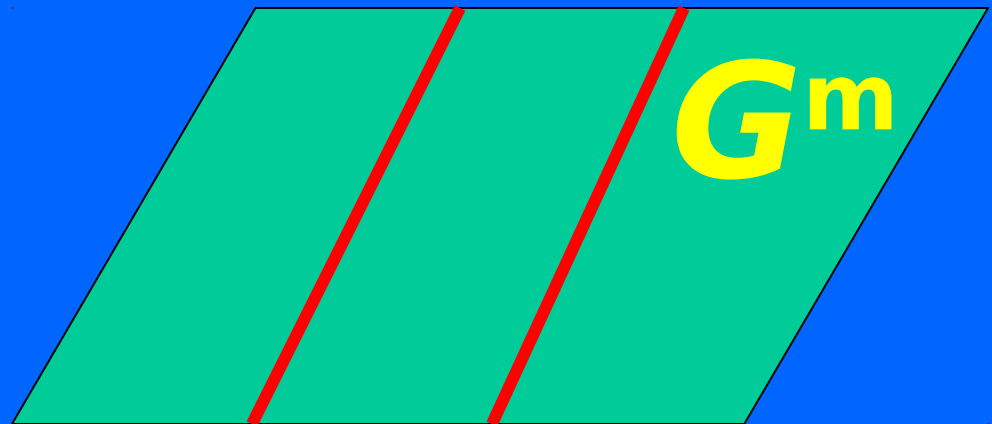
Diana, Regina, FM, Eliz,  
Michelle



# GEOMETRY GROUPS 2004-5

## DOUBLE BUBBLES IN GAUSS SPACE

**Not 2 hyperplanes.**

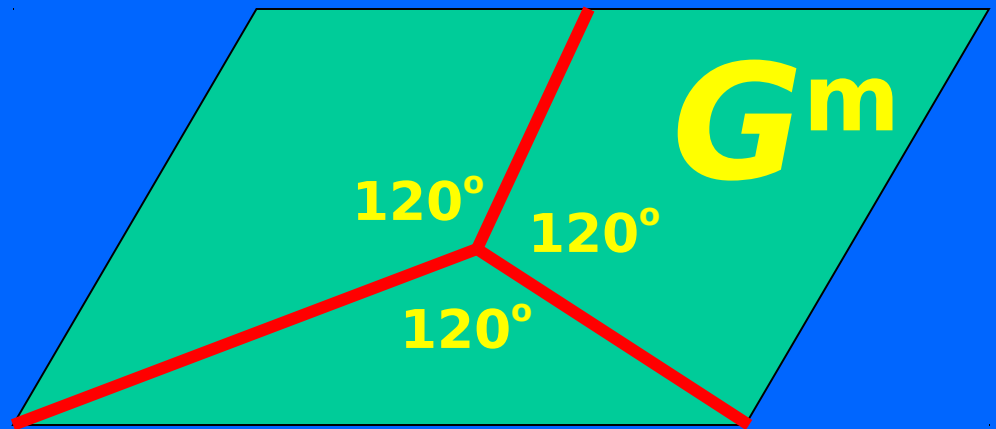


# GEOMETRY GROUPS 2004-5

## DOUBLE BUBBLES IN GAUSS SPACE

**Conj.**

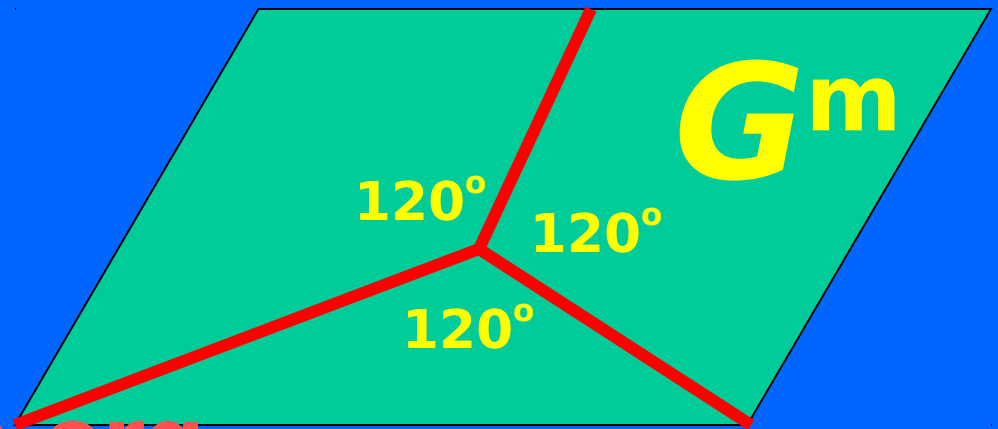
**3 half-hyperplanes  
meeting at  $120^\circ$ .**



Good news: suffices to  
check Hutchings  
inequality in  $G^2$ .



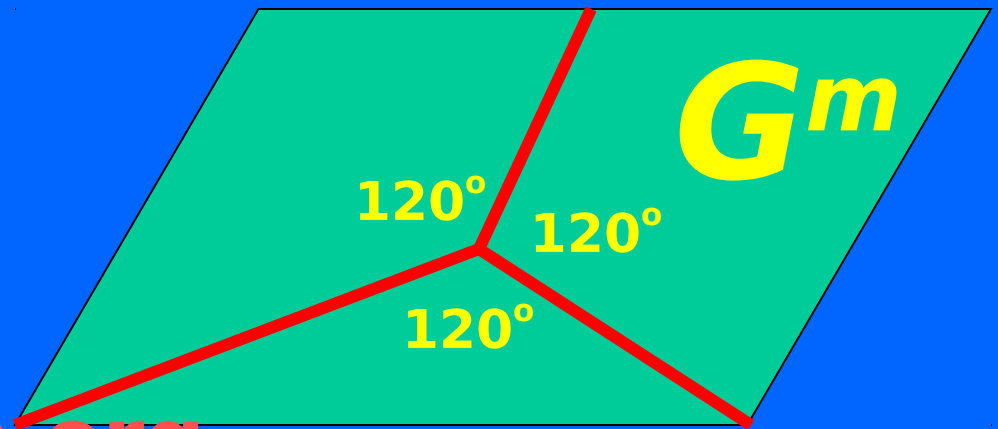
J. Corneli  
SMALL '01  
PlanetMath.org



**Bad news: methods do not apply in  $G^m$  for lack of translational symmetry.**

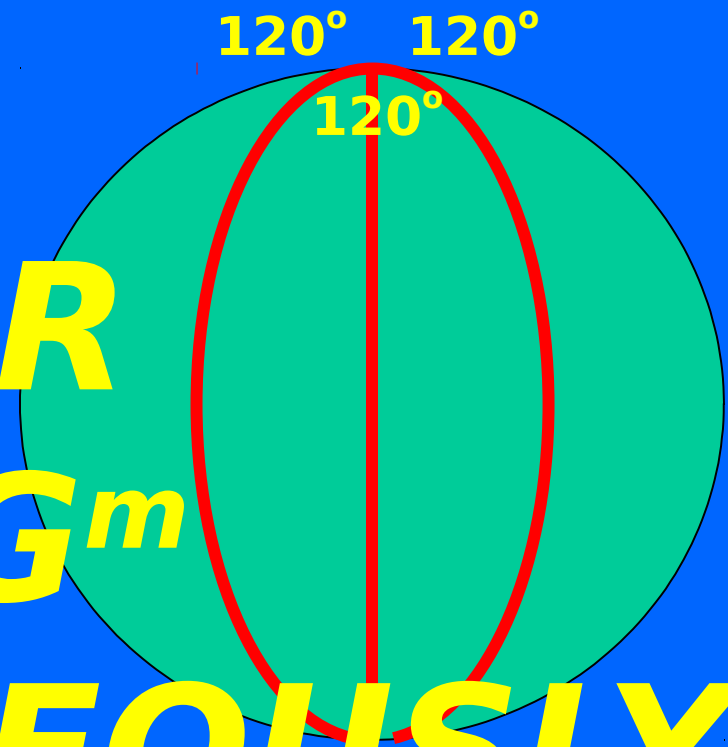


**J. Corneli**  
**SMALL '01**  
**PlanetMath.org**

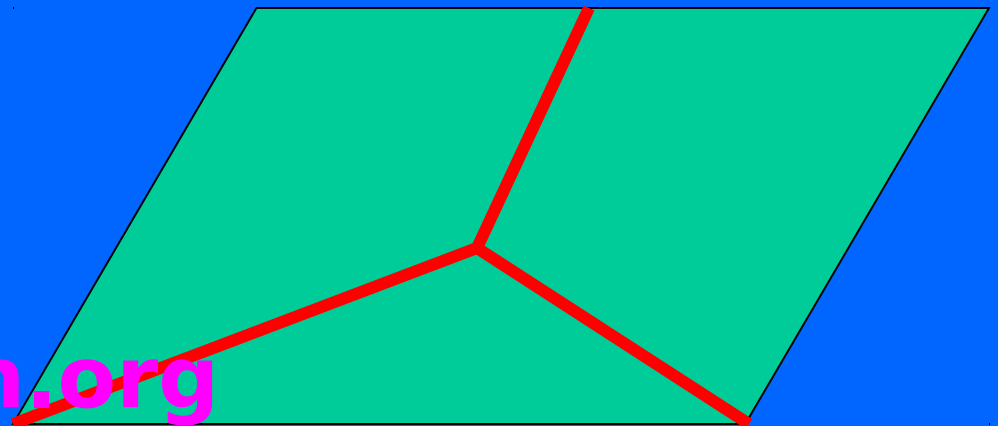


**IDEA OF PROOF:**

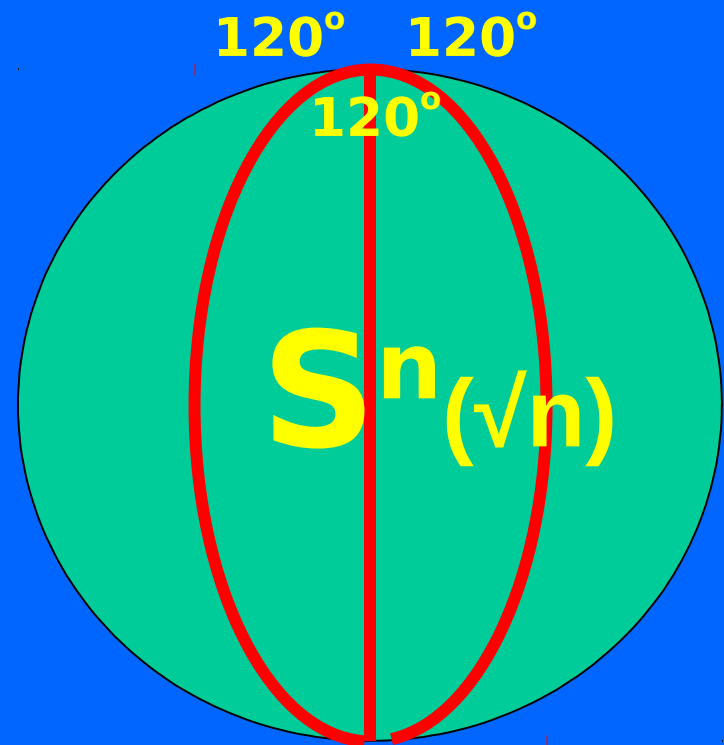
***PROVE FOR  
 $S^n$  AND  $G^m$   
SIMULTANEOUSLY***



**J. Corneli  
SMALL '01  
PlanetMath.org**

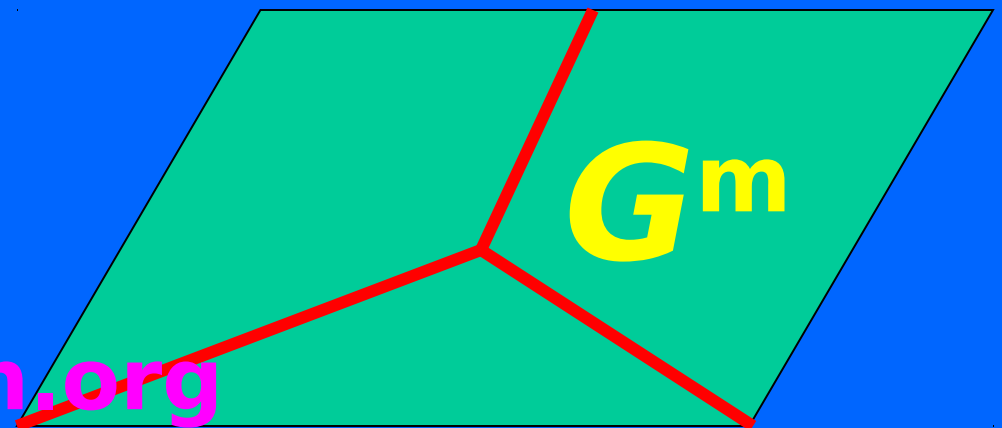


$G^m$  is limit of  
projections of  
high-dim'l  
spheres.



Mehler 1856,  
not Poincare

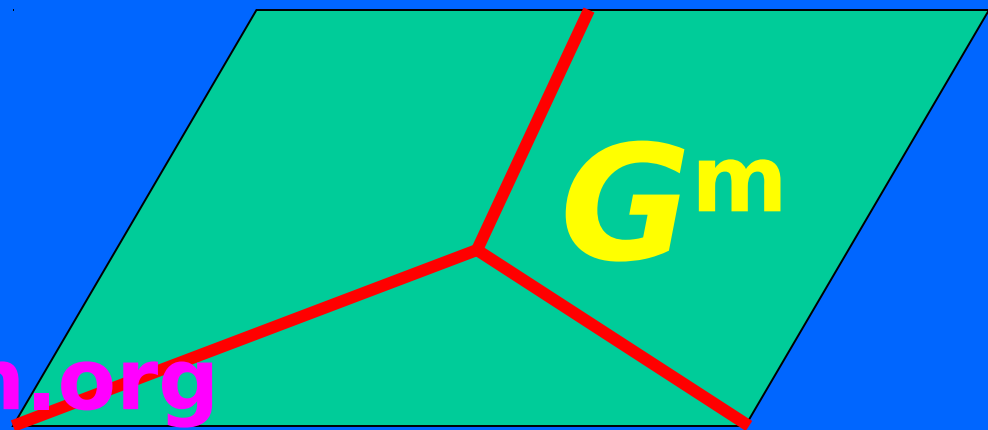
as  $n \rightarrow \infty$



J. Corneli  
SMALL '01  
PlanetMath.org

# IDEA OF PROOF:

1. Verify Hutchings inequality in  $G^2$ .
2. Carry out proof in  $S^n$ .
3. Transfer result back to  $G^m$ .



J. Corneli  
SMALL '01  
PlanetMath.org

**Proof.**

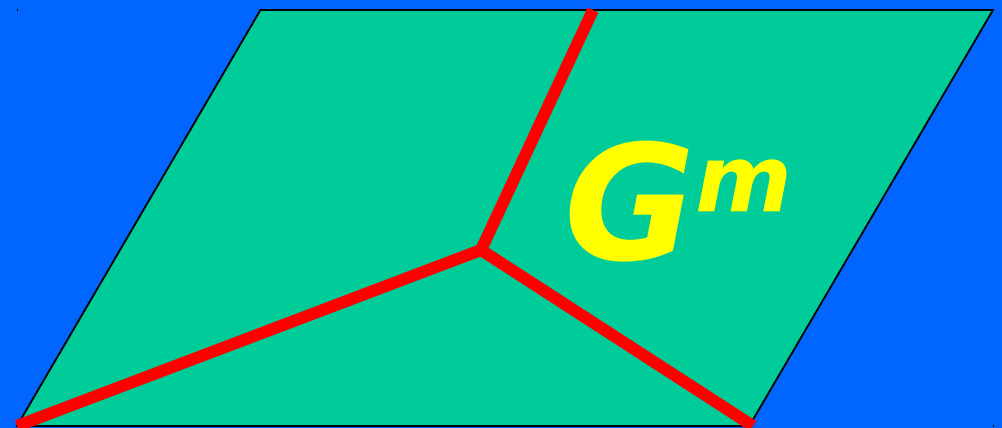
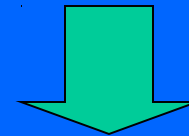
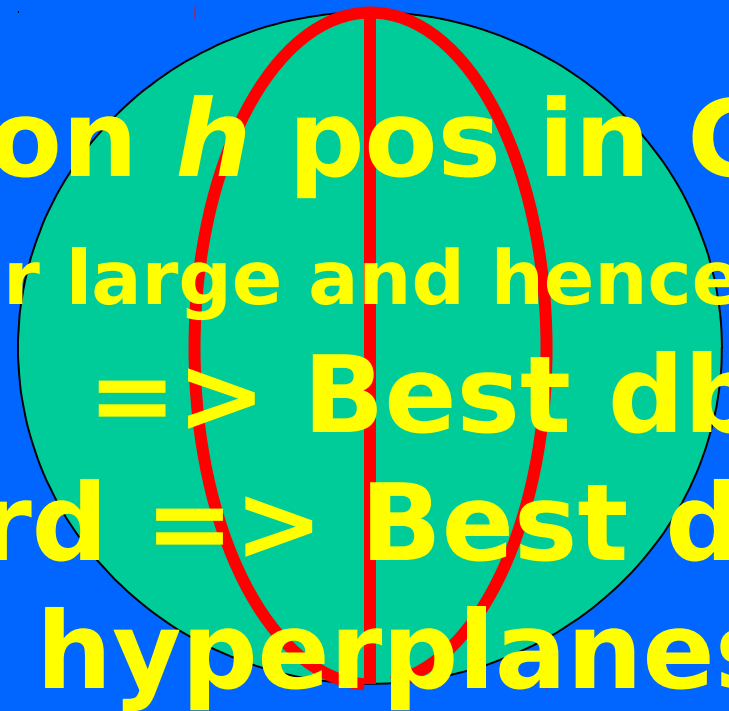
**Hutchings function  $h$  pos in  $G^2$**

**$\Rightarrow h$  pos in  $S^n$  for large  $n$  and hence all  $n$**

**bub in  $S^n$  standard  $\Rightarrow$  Best dbl**

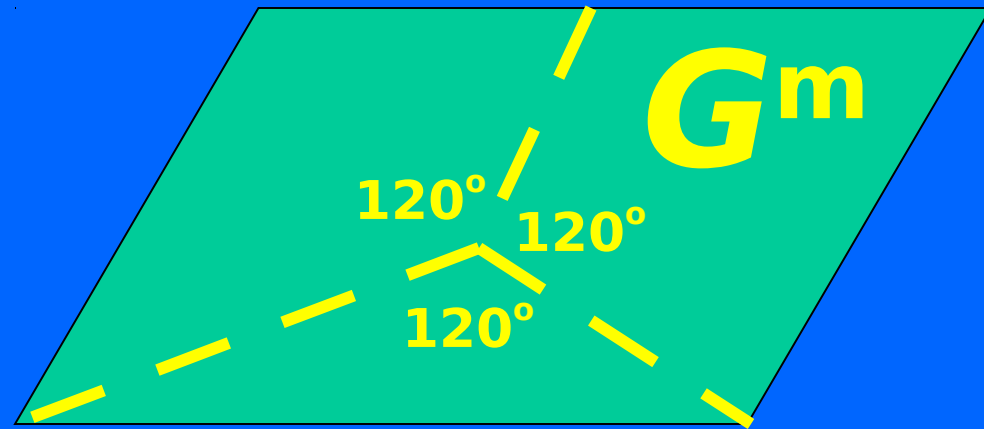
**bub in  $G^m$  is hyperplanes**

**at  $120^\circ$**





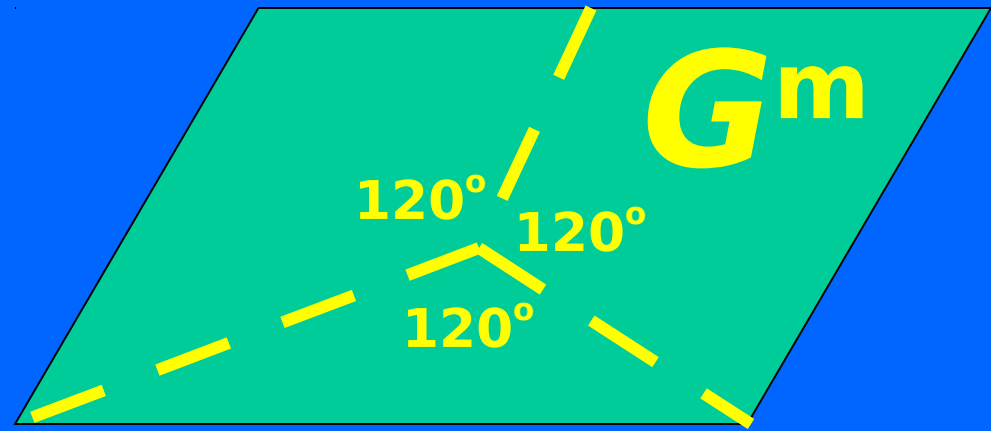
# THREE VOLUMES IN GAUSSIAN $G^m$



Proved for  
nearly  
equal  
volumes  
(each .3  
to .37).



# THREE VOLUMES IN GAUSSIAN $G^m$



Proved for  
nearly  
equal  
volumes  
(each .3  
to .37).

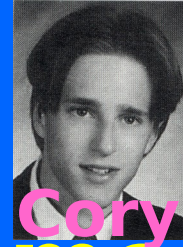
Proofs for all  
volumes require  
a different  
approach.

“SMALL” UND RES  
GEOM GROUP 1999

Ben Reichardt  
Cory Heilmann  
Yuan Lai  
Anita Spielman

PROVED DBL BUB  
CONJ IN  $R^4$

&  $R^n$  for certain volumes for which  
larger bubble is connected



Cory



Yuan



Anita



2008:

BEN PROVED

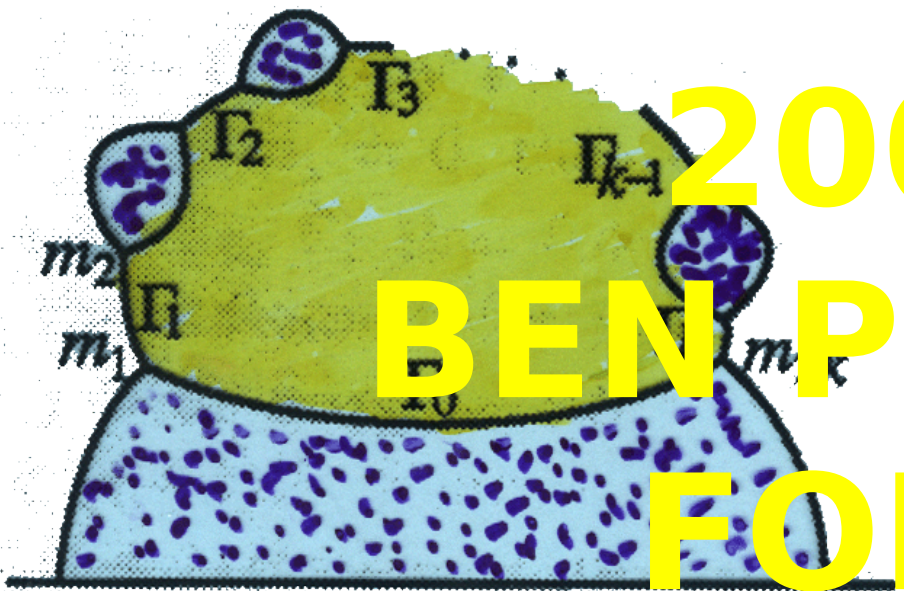
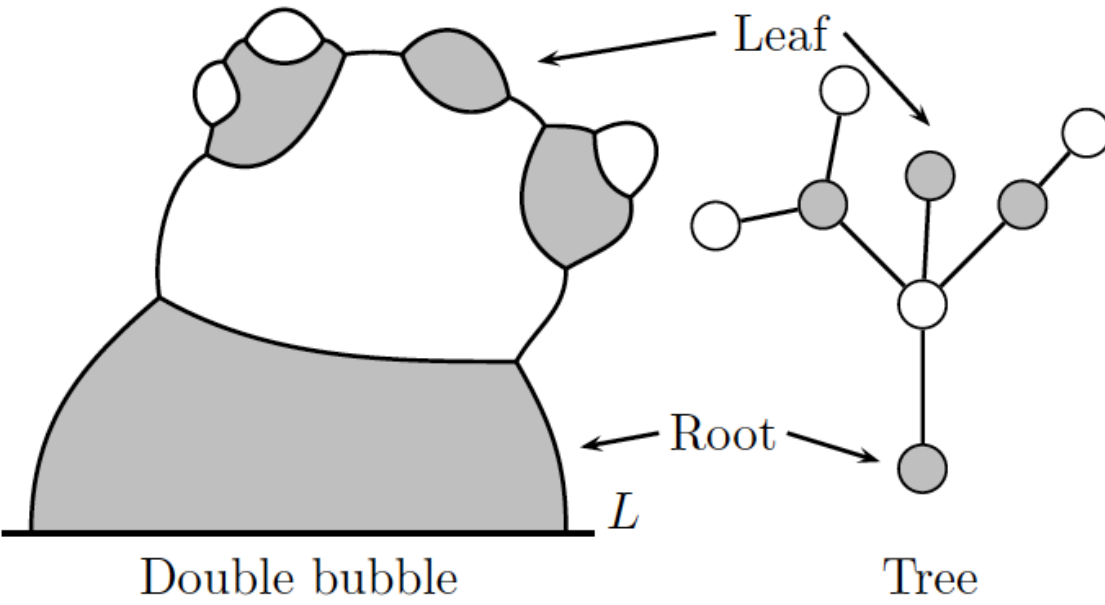
FOR  $R^n$



Ben

Neither region connected

Never extended to other spaces.



2008:  
BEN PROVED  
FOR  $R^n$

Ben



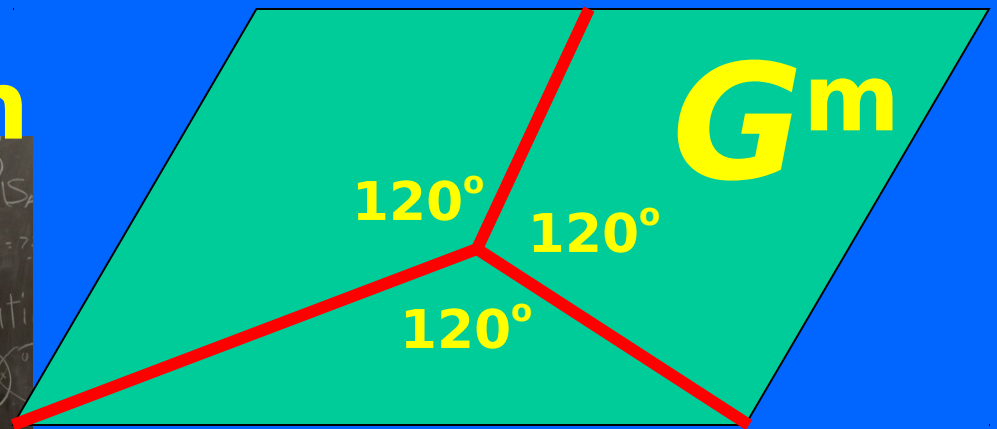
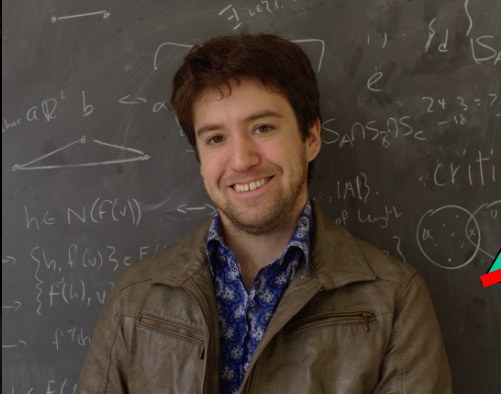
# Gaussian Dbl Bub Thm.

(Milman-

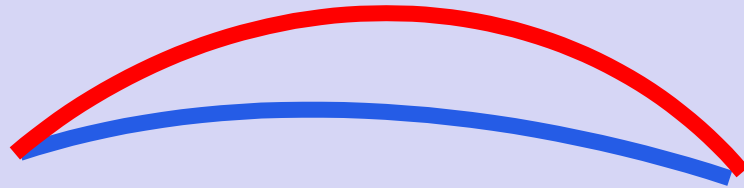
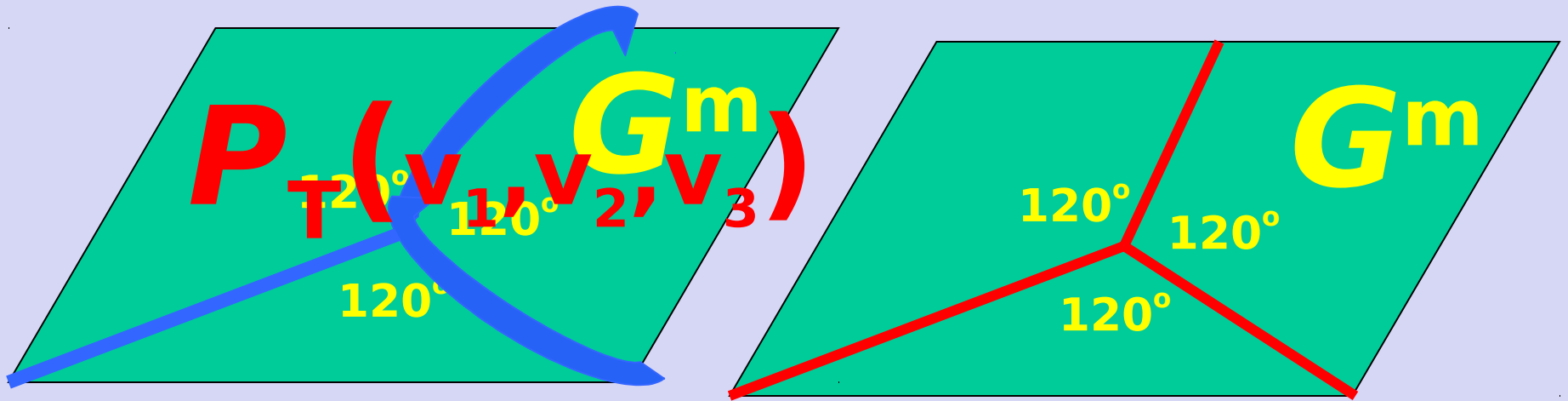
Neeman, arXiv Jan'18). For any 3 volumes in  $G^m$  best partition is

3 HYPERPLANES AT  $120^\circ$

Milman-Neeman



$$P_0(v_1, v_2, v_3) \cong$$



Prop.  $P_0'' \cong P_T''$

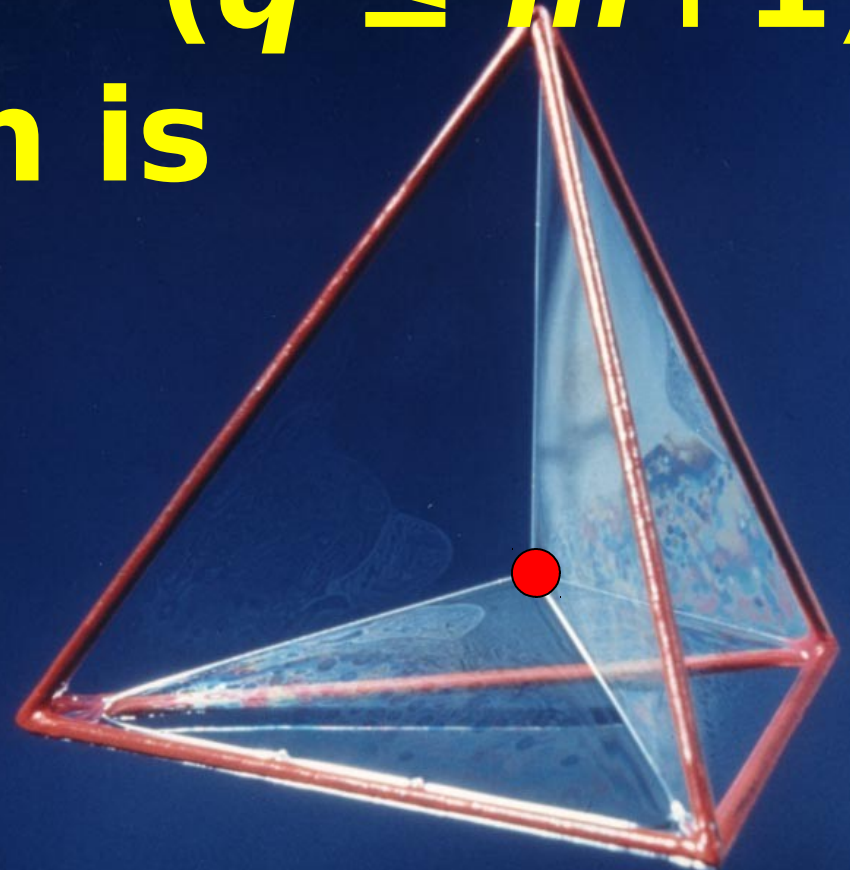
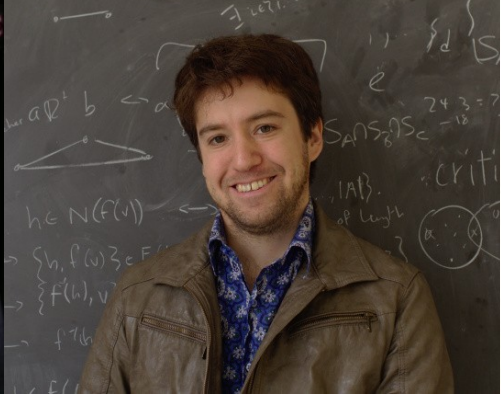
Contradiction.

# Gaussian Multi-Bub Thm.

(Milman-

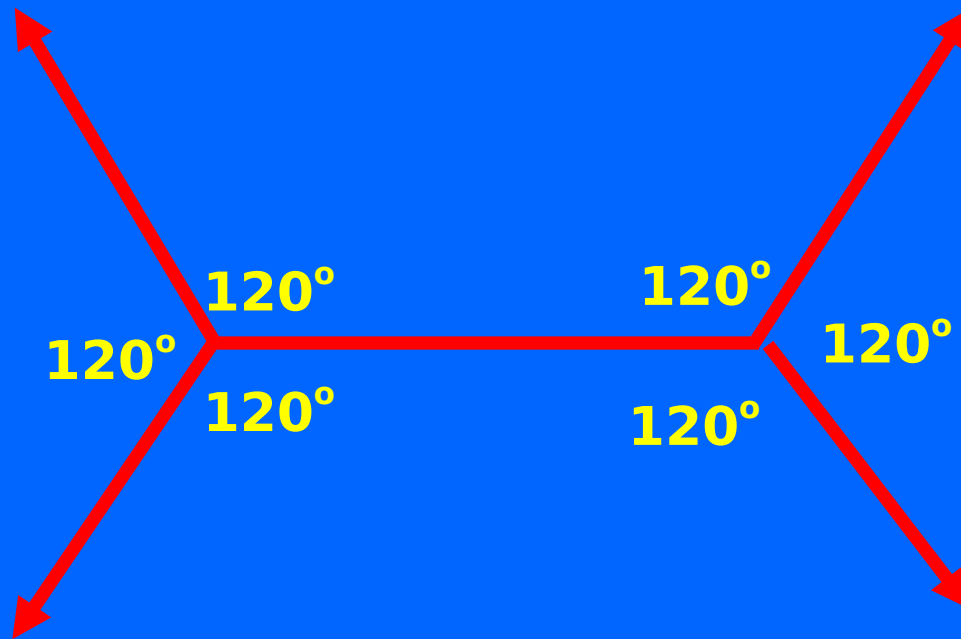
Neeman, May '18). For any  $q$  volumes in  $G^m$  ( $q \leq m+1$ ) best partition is reg simplex.

Milman-Neeman



# Conjecture in $G^2$

Best partition for 4 areas ( $q = m+2$ )

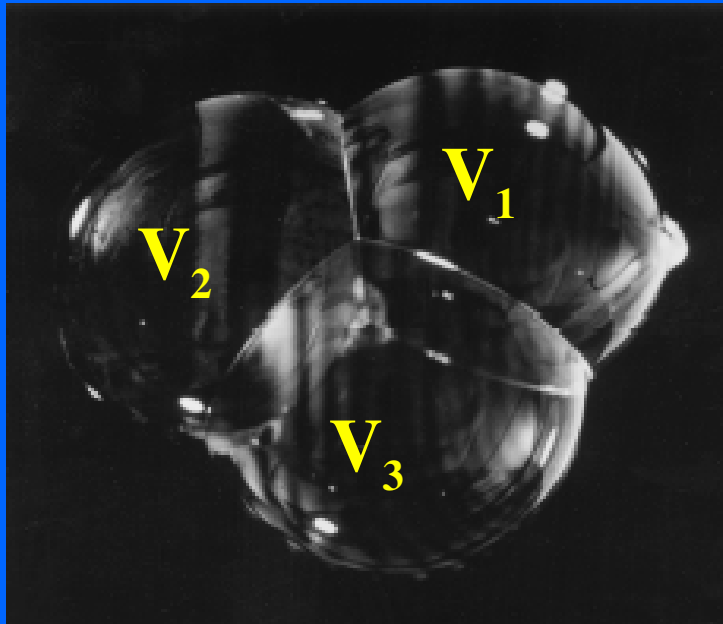


2004/5 Geometry Groups

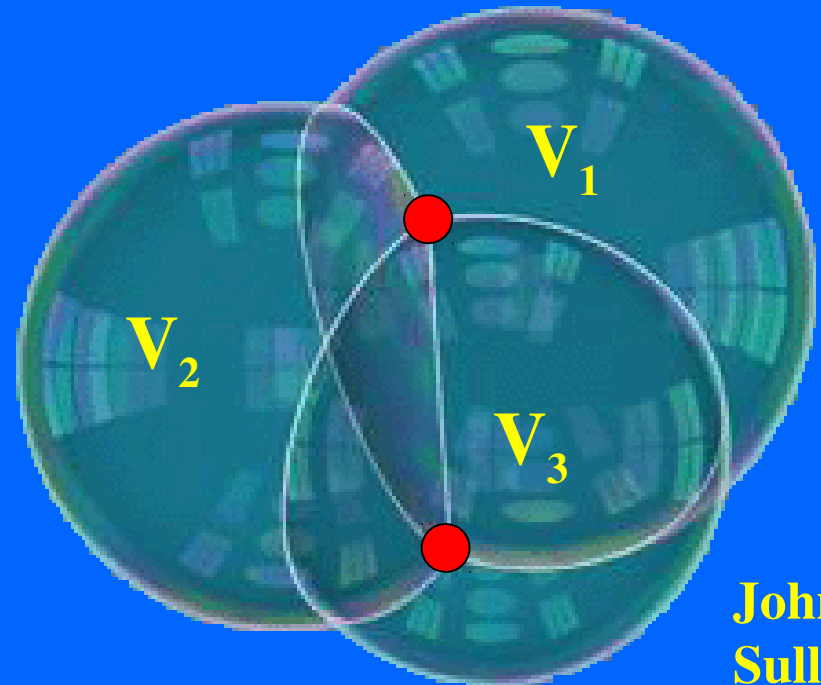


# OPEN QUESTION IN $\mathbb{R}^n$

IS THE STANDARD **TRIPLE BUBBLE**  
THE ABSOLUTE LEAST AREA  
SHAPE?

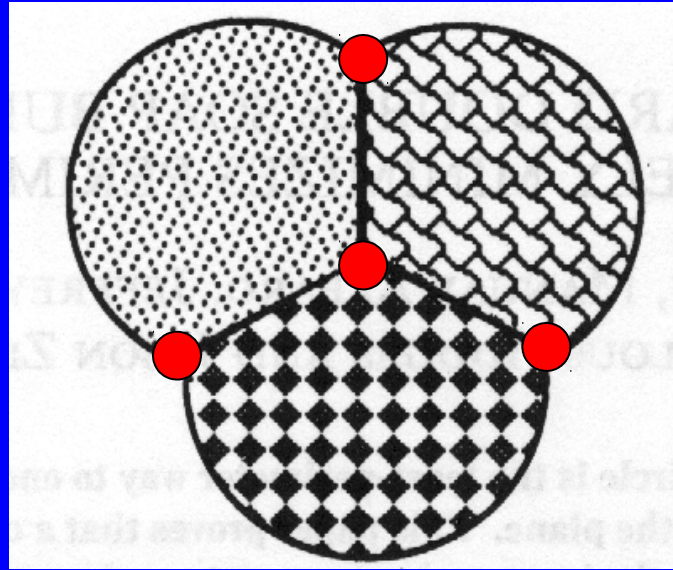


Jeremy Ackerman



John M  
Sullivan

# BEST PLANAR TRIPLE BUBBLE



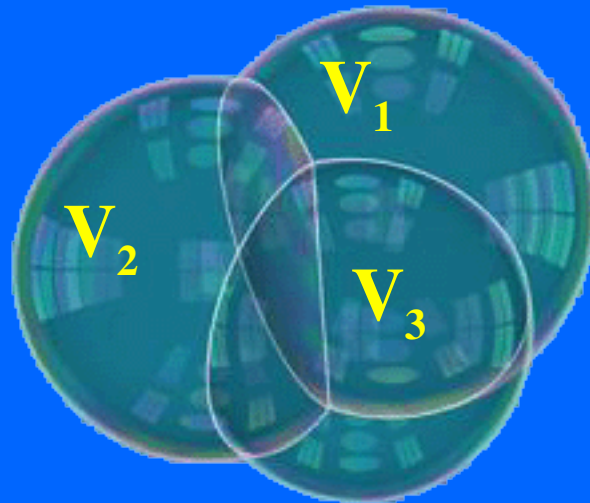
**Wacharin Wichiramala**  
**PhD thesis, 2002**  
**Hundreds of cases.**

**DO SOAP BUBBLE CLUSTERS FIND THE  
ABSOLUTE LEAST AREA SHAPE?**

**A. Yes, always.**

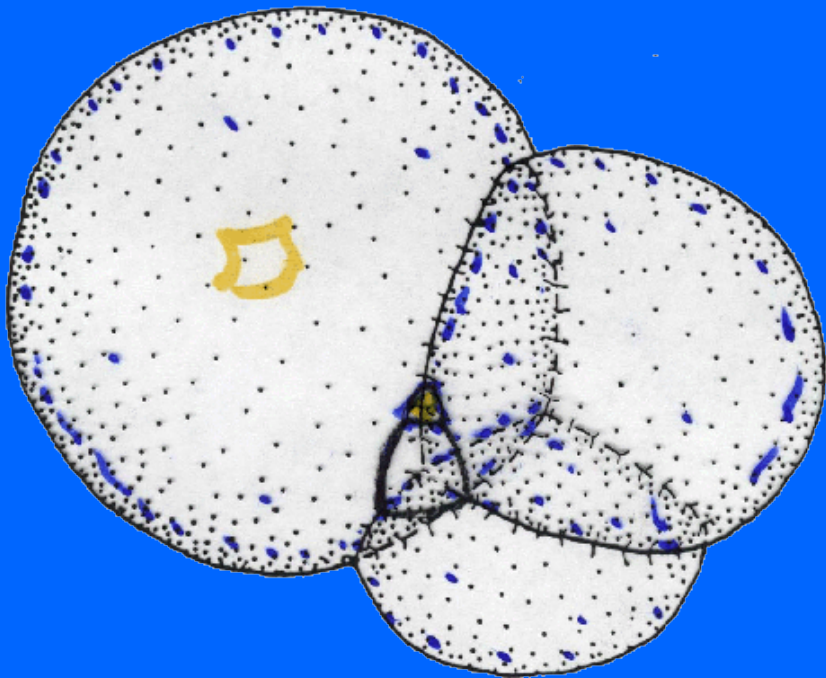
**B. No, not always.**

**C. No one knows for sure.**

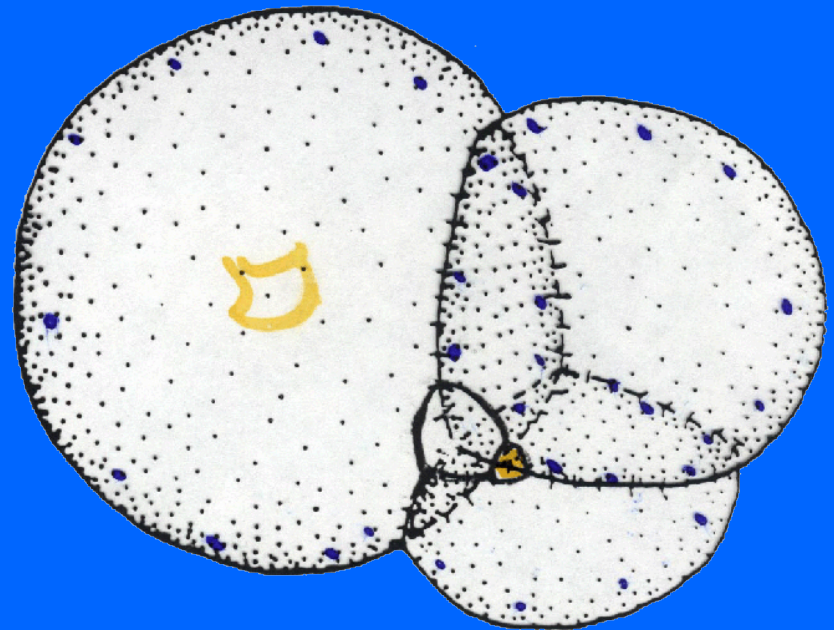


# DO SOAP BUBBLE CLUSTERS FIND THE ABSOLUTE LEAST AREA SHAPE?

**B. NO, NOT ALWAYS:**



**less area**

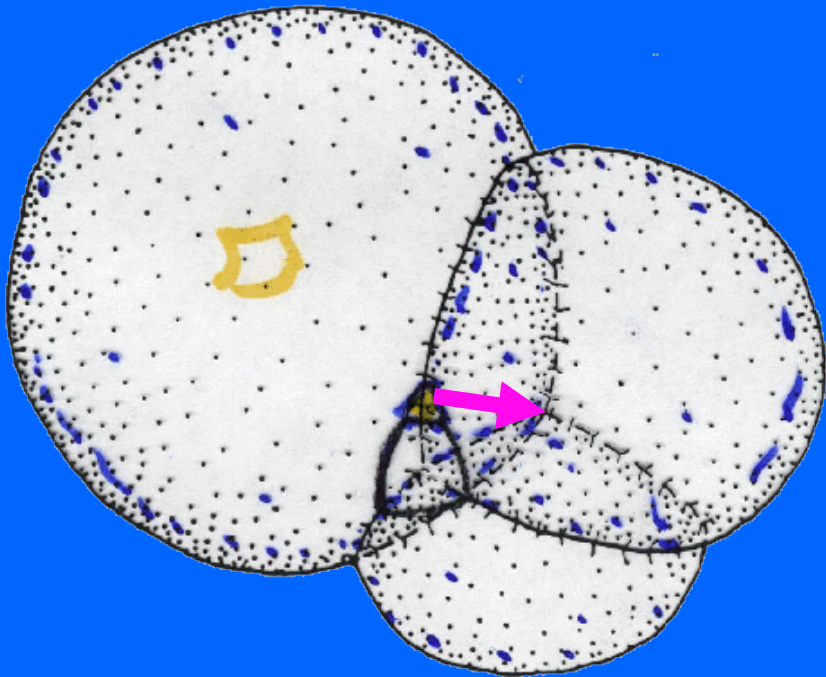


**more area**

# DO SOAP BUBBLE CLUSTERS FIND THE ABSOLUTE LEAST AREA SHAPE?

No, better to put tiny fifth region in back, with three largest bubbles.

I think so, but it's hard to know for sure.



least area ?

Recall for  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with radial log-convex density single bubble is sphere about origin.

$$e^{+r^2}$$



$\mathbb{R}^2$  with density

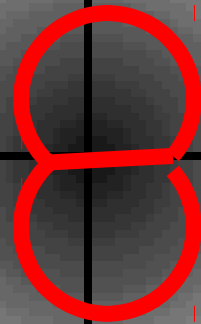
$$e^{r^2}$$

Double bubble problem:  
enclose and separate given  
*weighted* areas with  
minimum *weighted* <sub>$e^{r^2}$</sub>   
perimeter.



$$e^{r^2}$$

$\mathbb{R}^2$  with density  
small areas



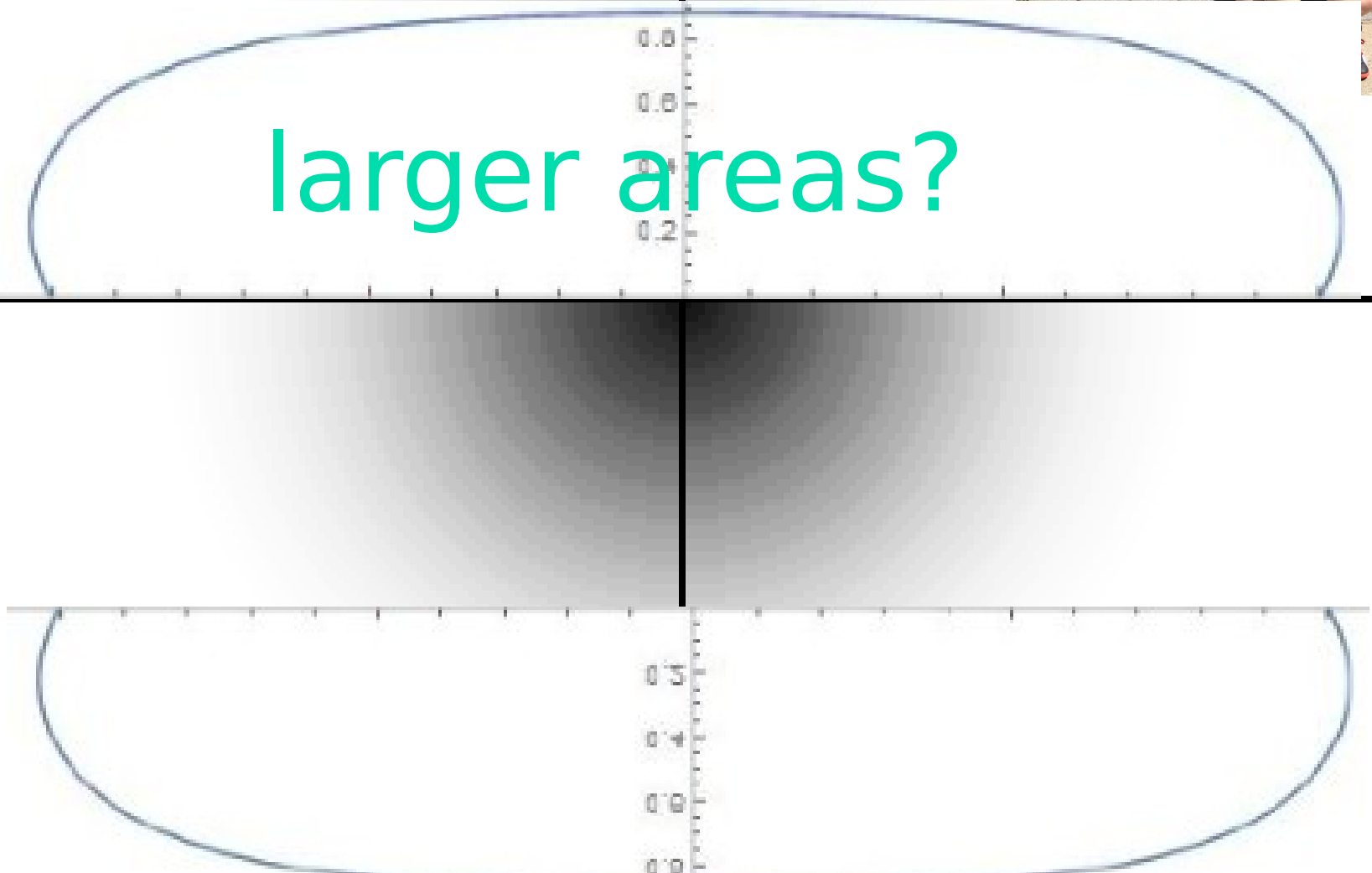


$R^2$  with density

$$e^{r^2}$$

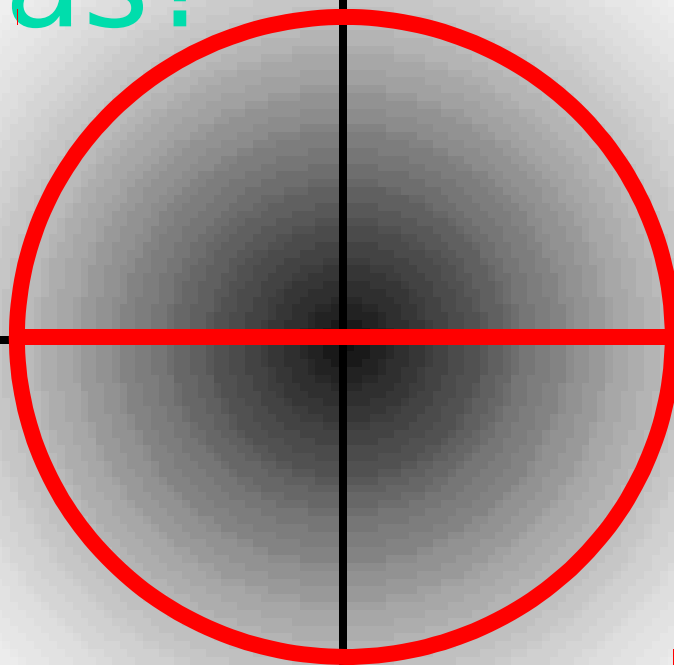
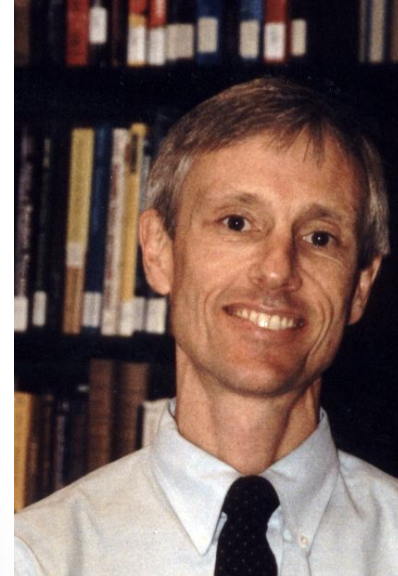


larger areas?

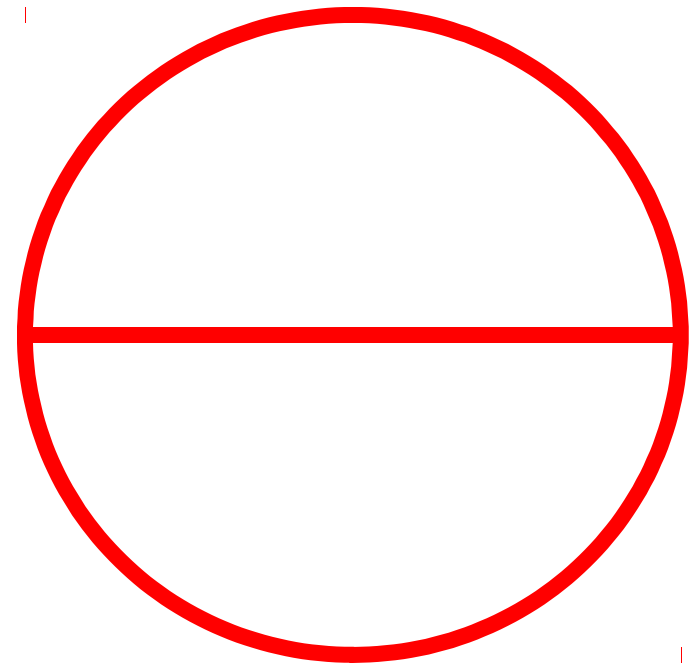
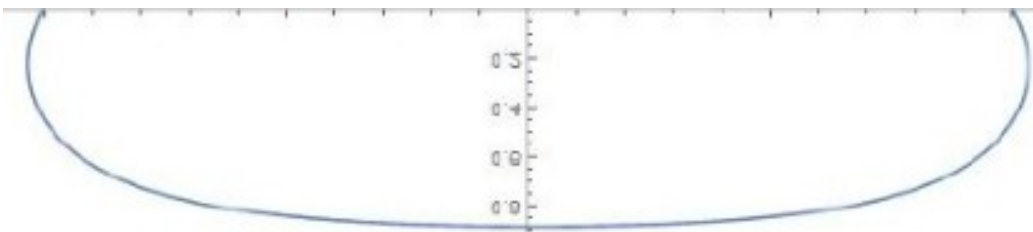
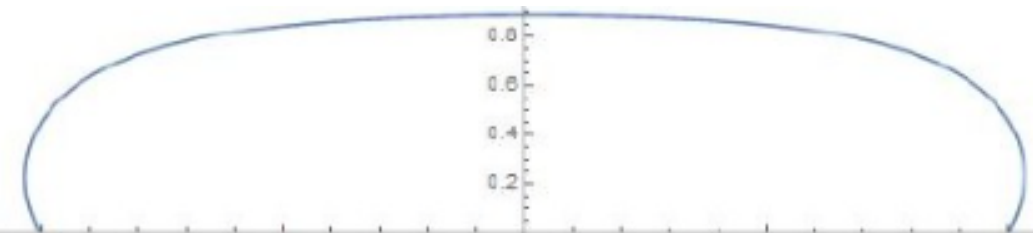
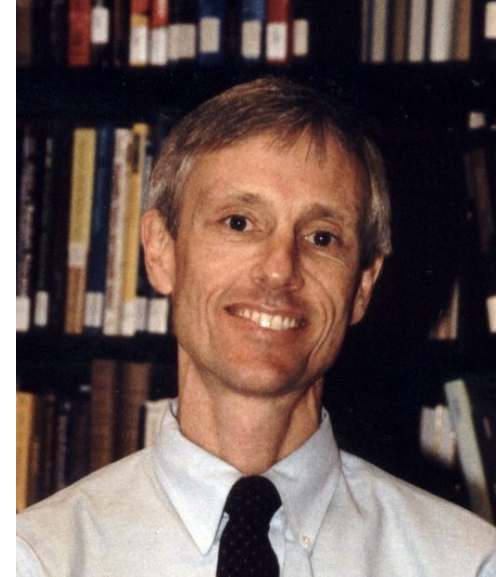


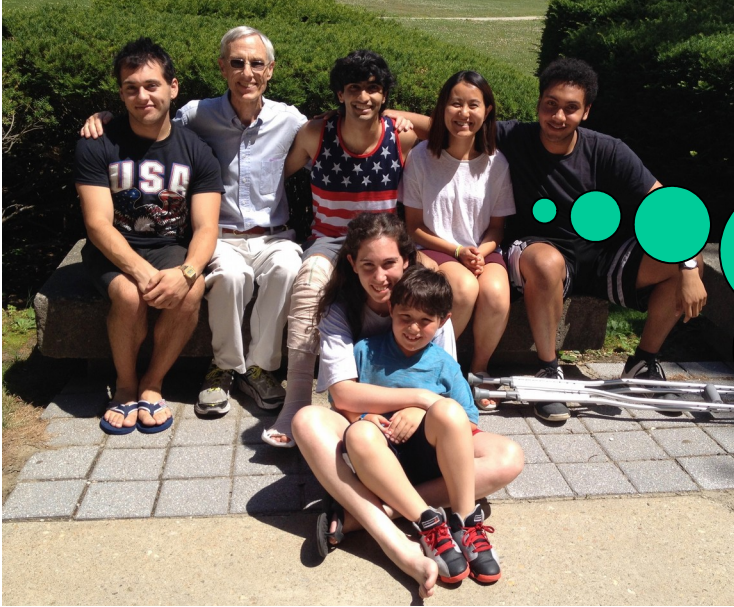
$\mathbb{R}^2$  with density  
larger areas?

$$e^{r^2}$$

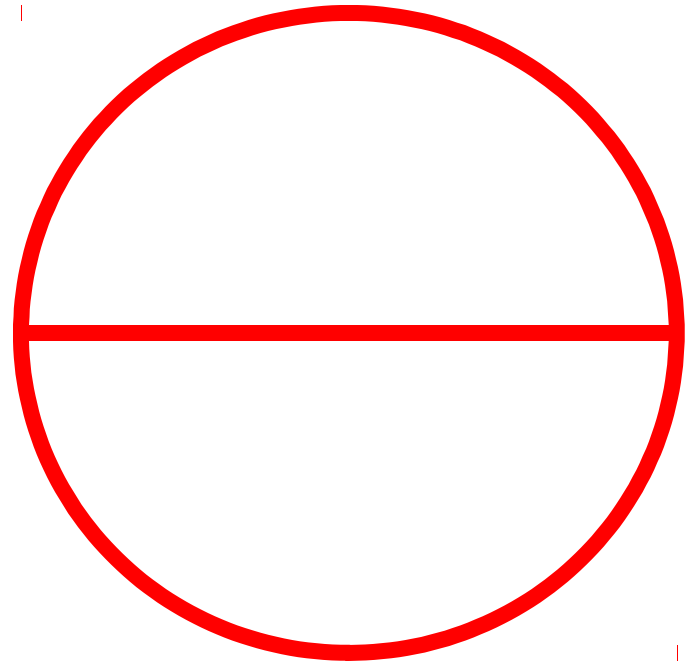
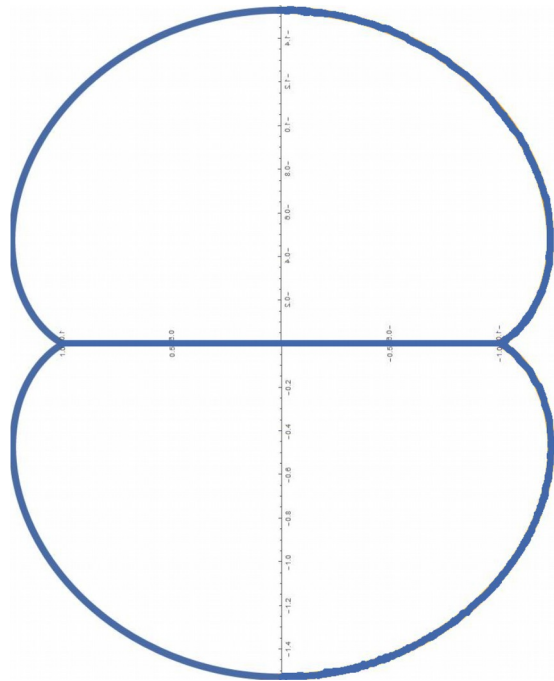
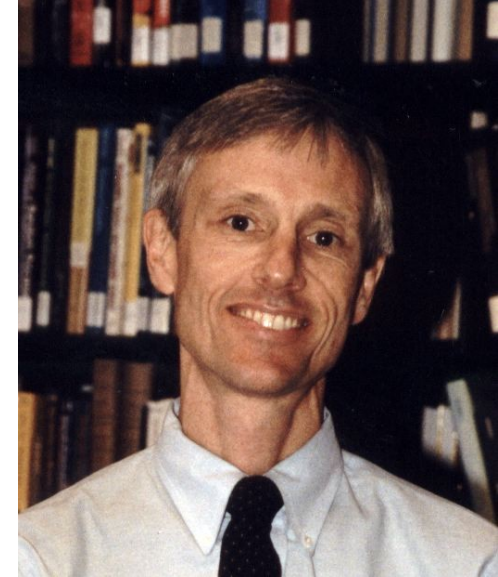


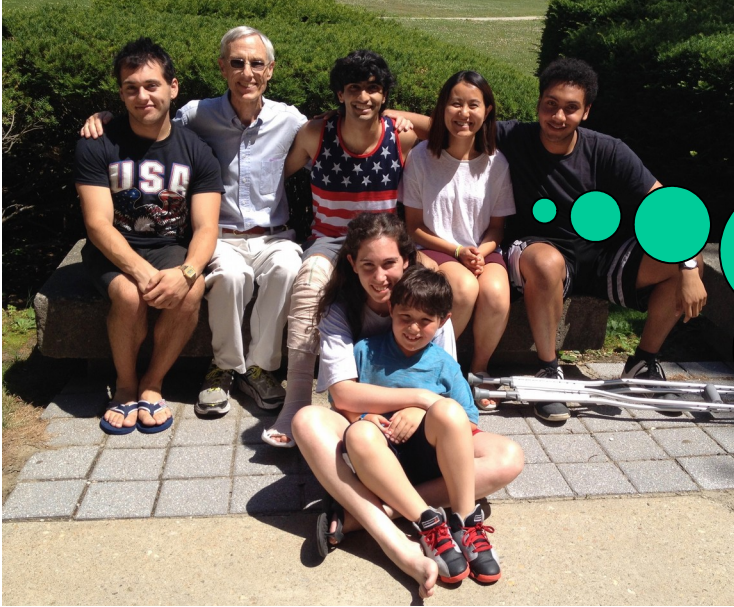
# Who's right?



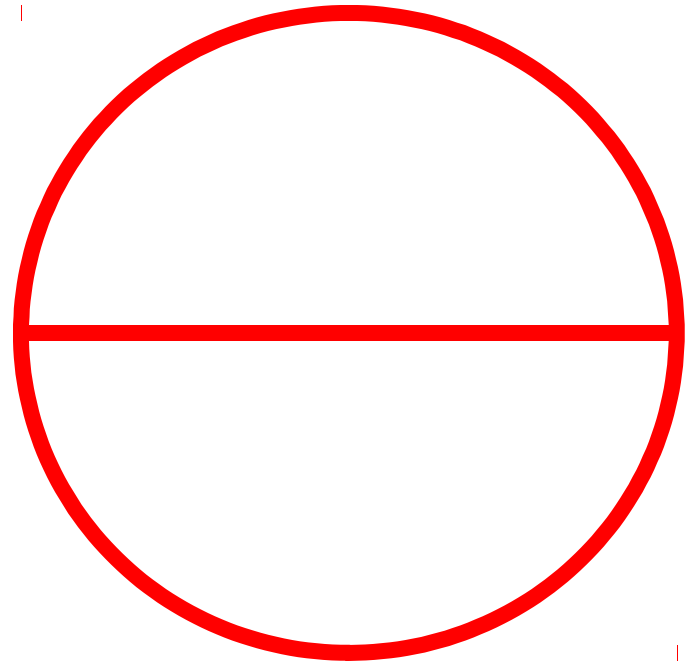
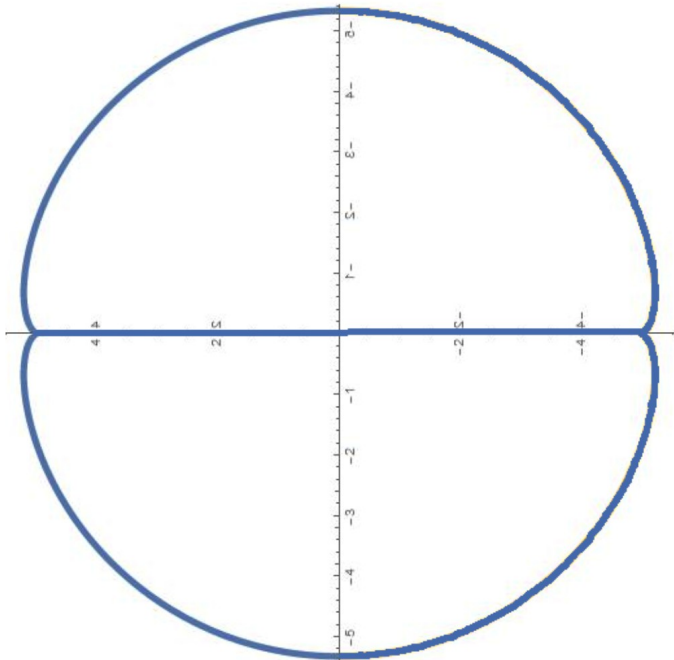
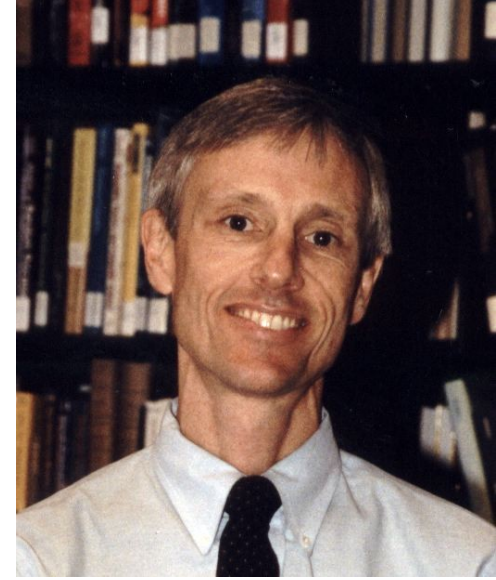


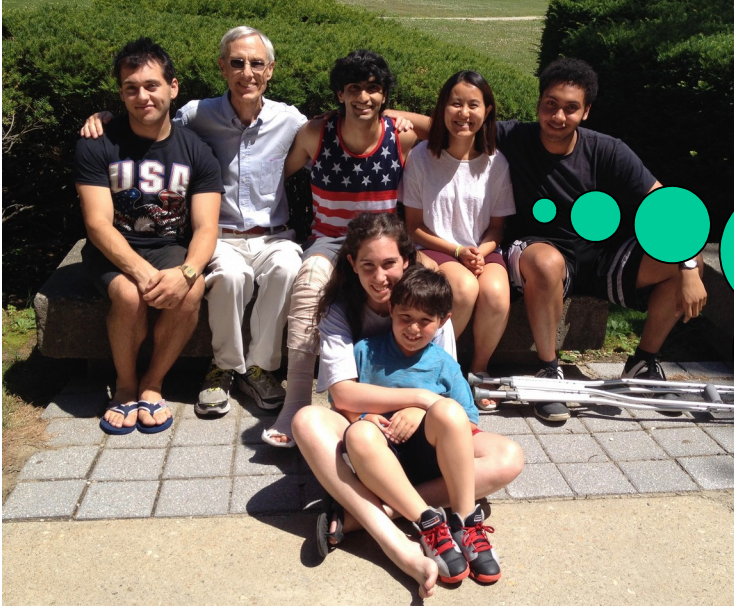
**“You  
were  
right”**



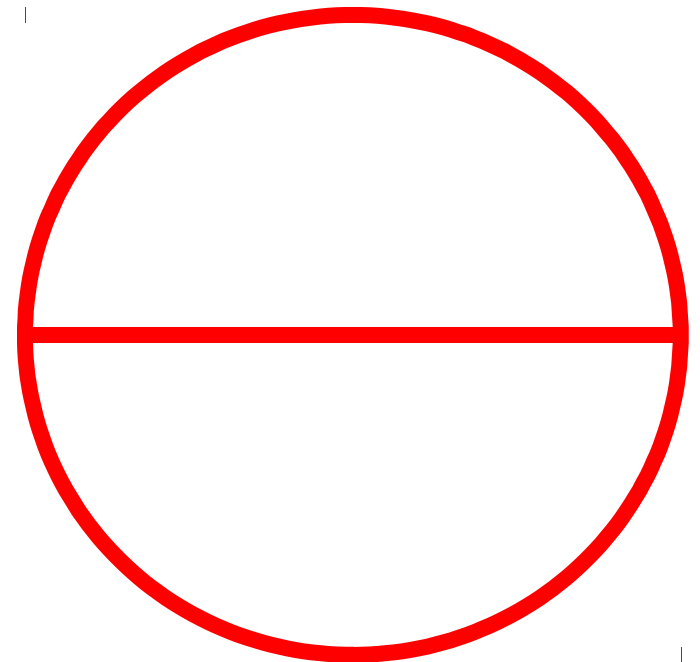
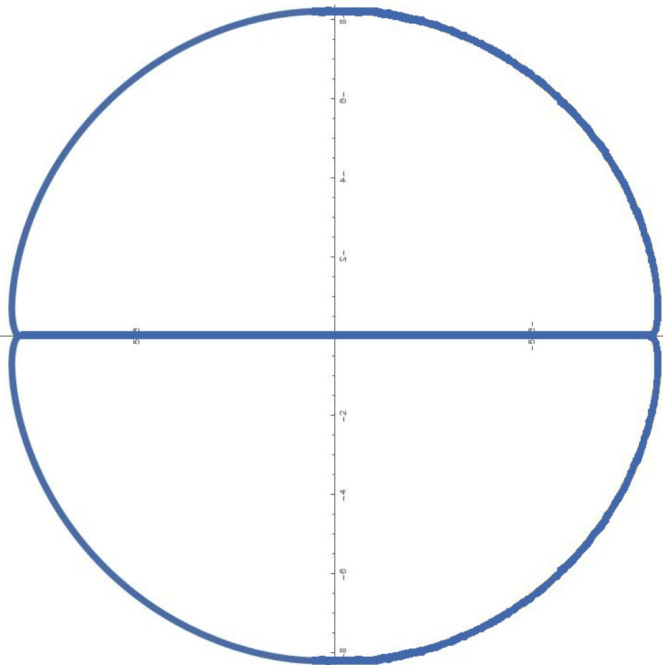
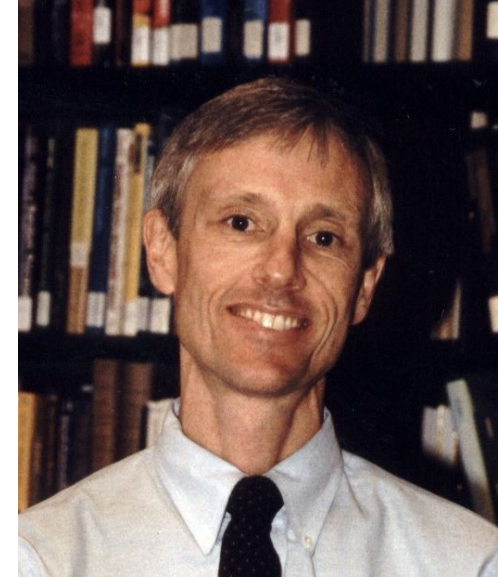


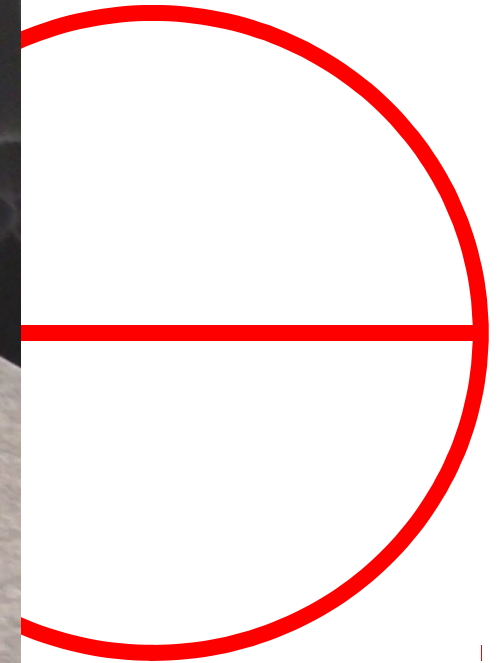
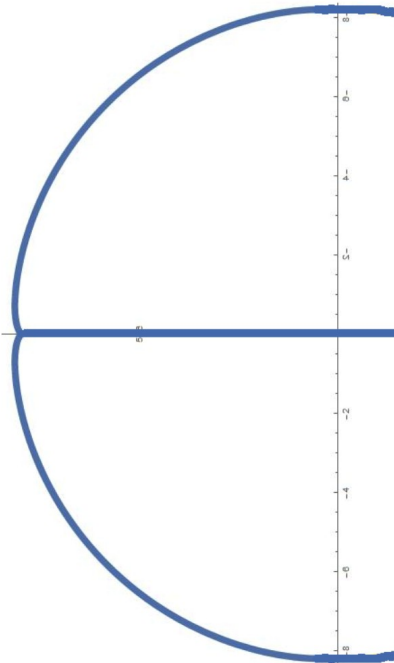
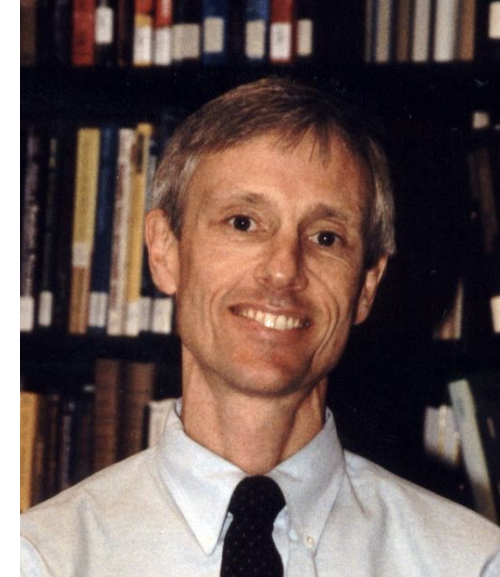
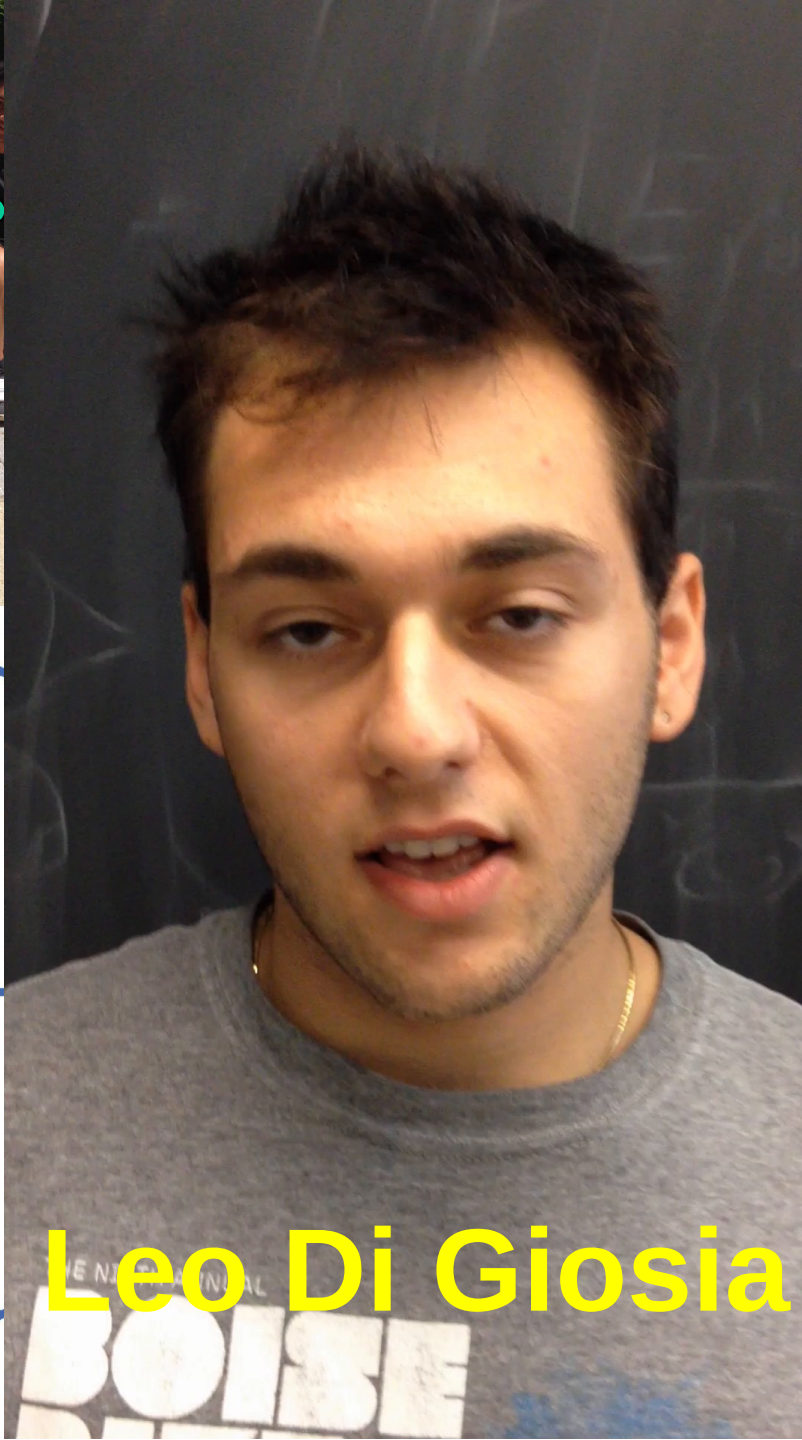
**“You  
were  
right”**





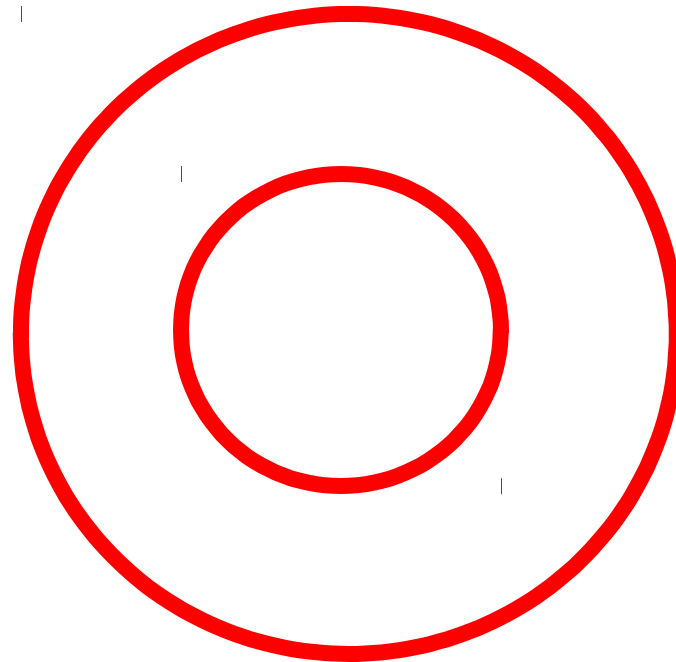
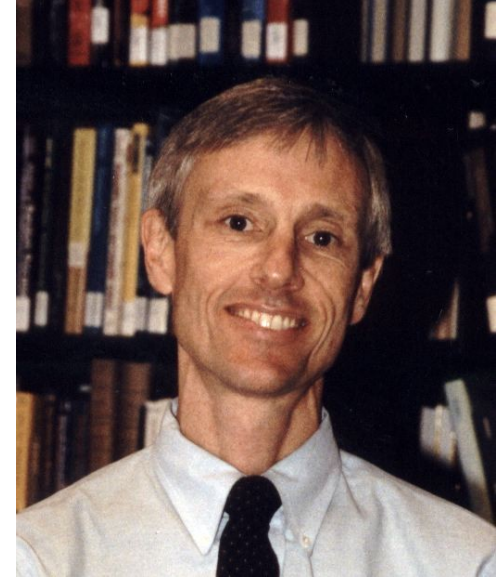
**“You  
were  
right”**



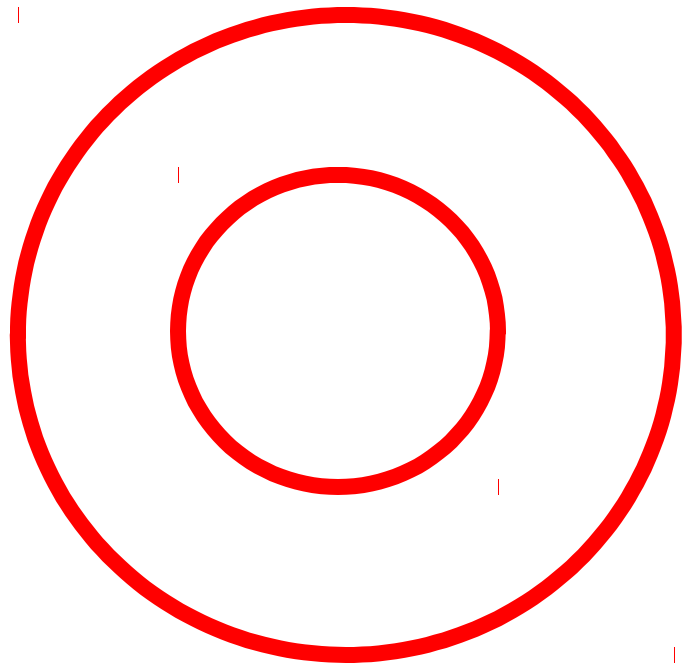




**Some  
large  
unequal  
areas**

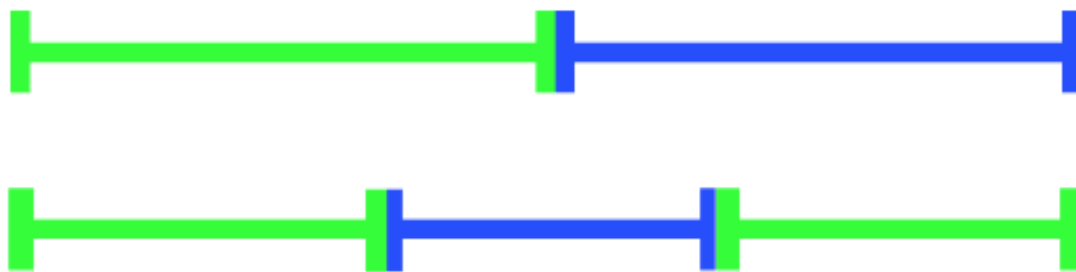
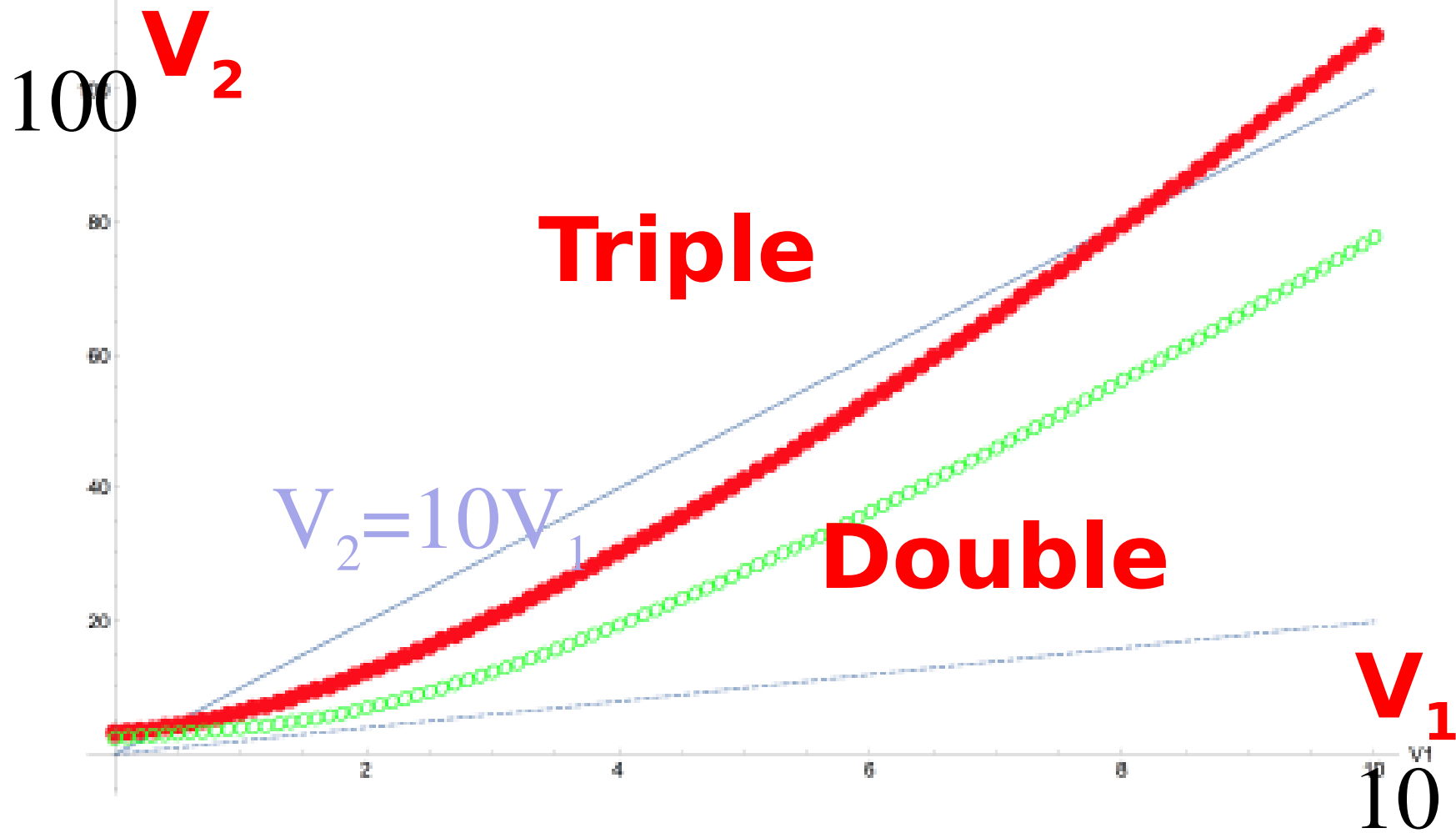


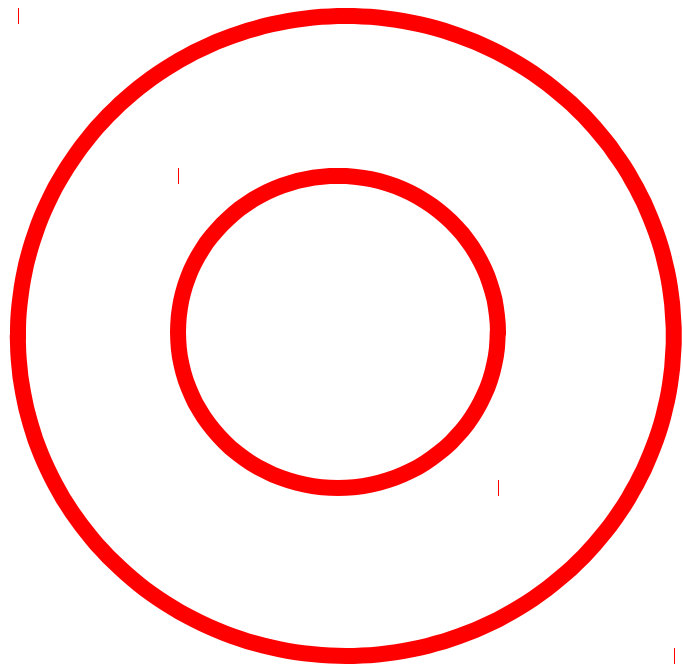




**Proved in  
1D for log-  
convex  
densities.**







**Prove  
1D**



**Dylanger  
Pittman**

## Research Article

## Open Access

Eliot Bongiovanni, Leonardo Di Giosia, Alejandro Diaz, Jahangir Habib, Arjun Kakkar, Lea Kenigsberg, Dylanger Pittman, Nat Sothanaphan\*, and Weitao Zhu

# Double Bubbles on the Real Line with Log-Convex Density



# small

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

June 12 – August 12, 2017

The SMALL Undergraduate Research Project is a nine-week summer program (with a tenth week at home) in which undergraduates investigate open research problems in mathematics. One of the largest programs of its kind in the country, SMALL has been supported by grants from the NSF for Research Experiences for Undergraduates and by Williams College. Over 500 students have participated in the project since its inception in 1988. Students work in small groups directed by individual faculty members. Participants publish papers and present talks at research conferences based on work done in SMALL. Many have gone on to complete PhDs in Mathematics or related fields.

During off hours, students enjoy the many attractions of summer in the Berkshires: hiking, biking, plays, concerts, etc. Weekly lunches, teas, and casual sporting events bring SMALL students together with faculty and other students spending the summer doing research at Williams College. Students receive a stipend of about \$4000. Several board plans are available at reasonable rates, with housing included for free.

## Research Groups

The 2017 groups are Commutative Algebra (Susan Loepp), Geometry (Frank Morgan) Knot Theory (Colin Adams), Number Theory and Probability (Steven J. Miller), and Tropical Geometry (Ralph Morrison).

Students  
from around  
the world.  
Apply by  
early Feb.



For more information, see

<http://math.williams.edu/small/>

or email the program director (sjm1@williams.edu)

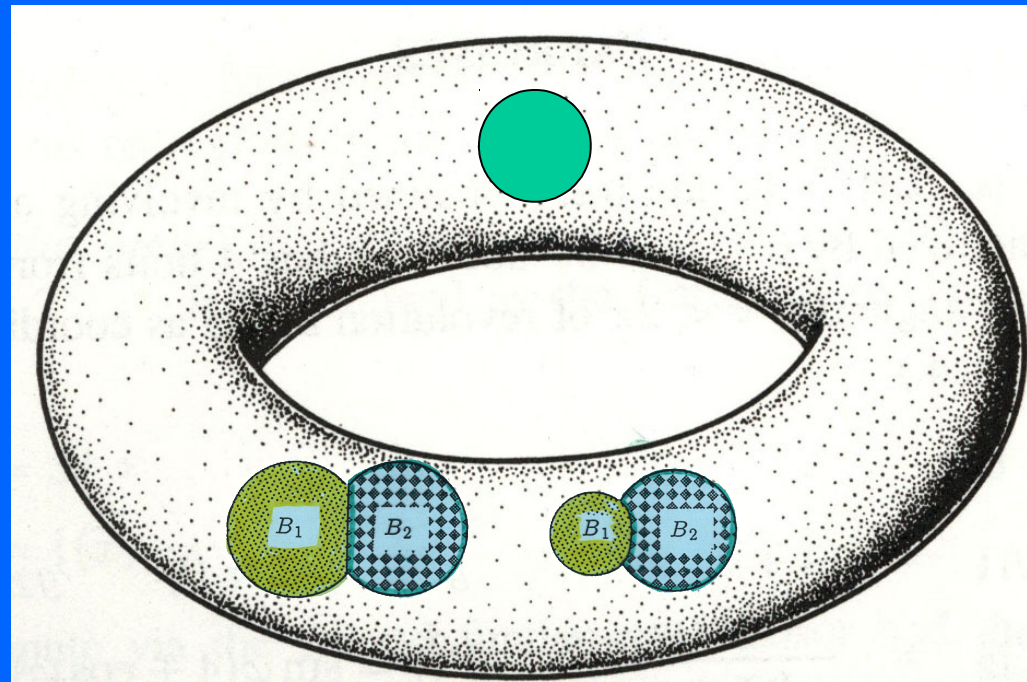
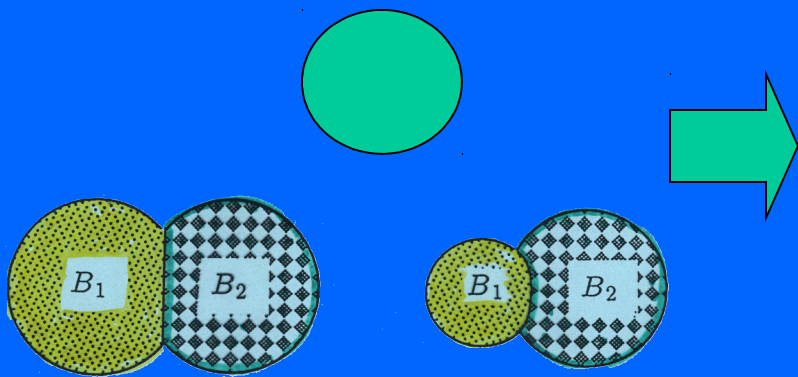


# RESEARCH EXPERIENCE FOR UNDERGRADUATES SUMMER PROGRAMS

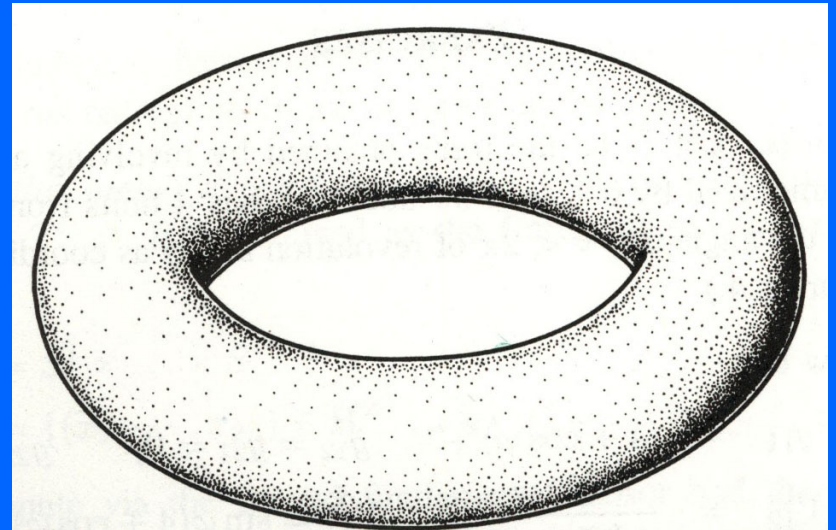
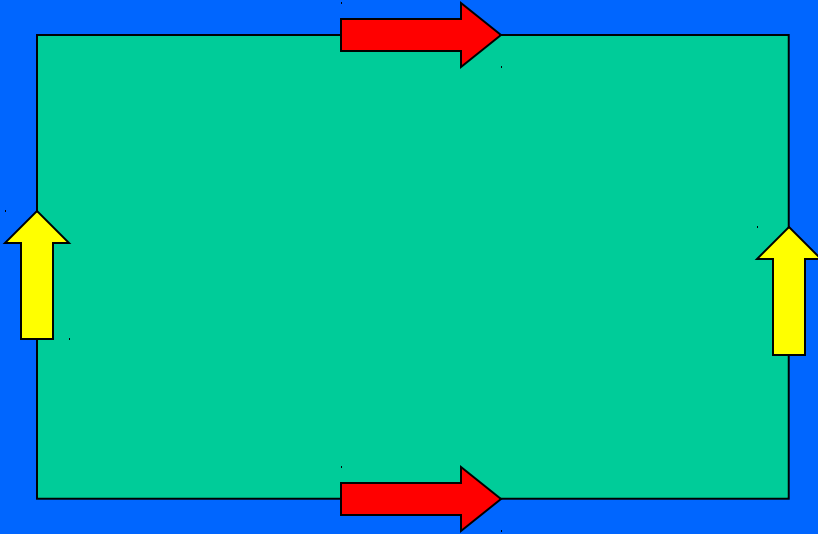
The table below contains links to REU programs active during the summer season. Applicants should note that most application deadlines fall in February - March. Program directors: this list will be updated regularly. To update your entry, or to request a new entry, please send email to the [AMS](#). Here is an article by Frank Morgan on [what makes a good REU proposal](#).

**Most of the REU programs on this page handle their applications through the AMS service [MathPrograms.org](#).**

# Bubbles in a Torus

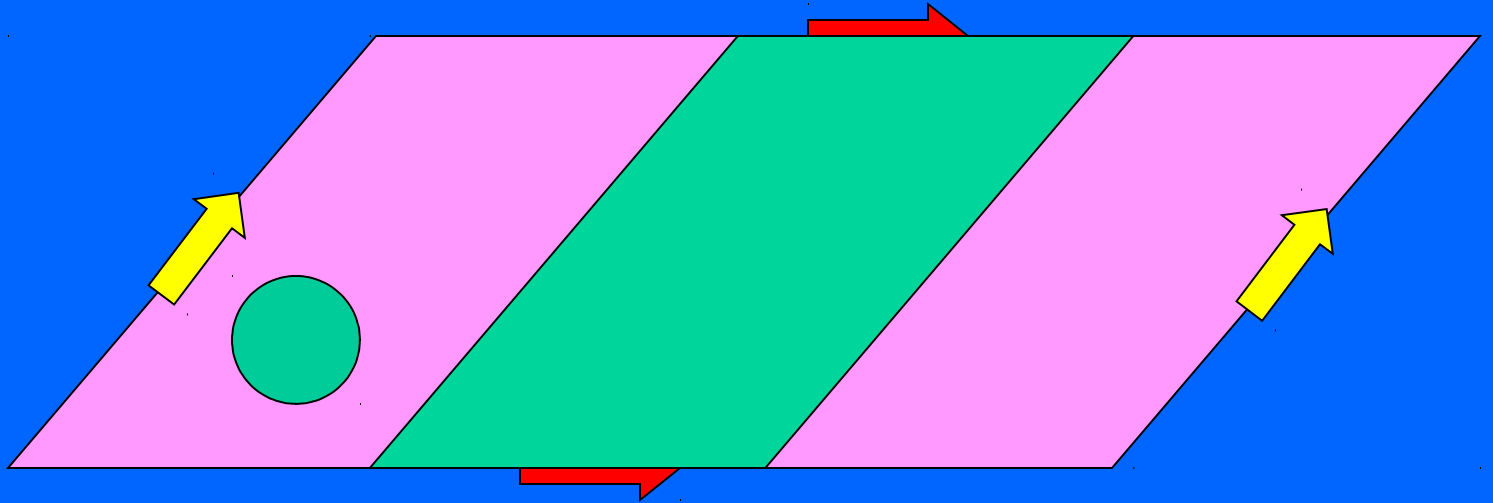


# BUBBLES IN FLAT 2D TORUS



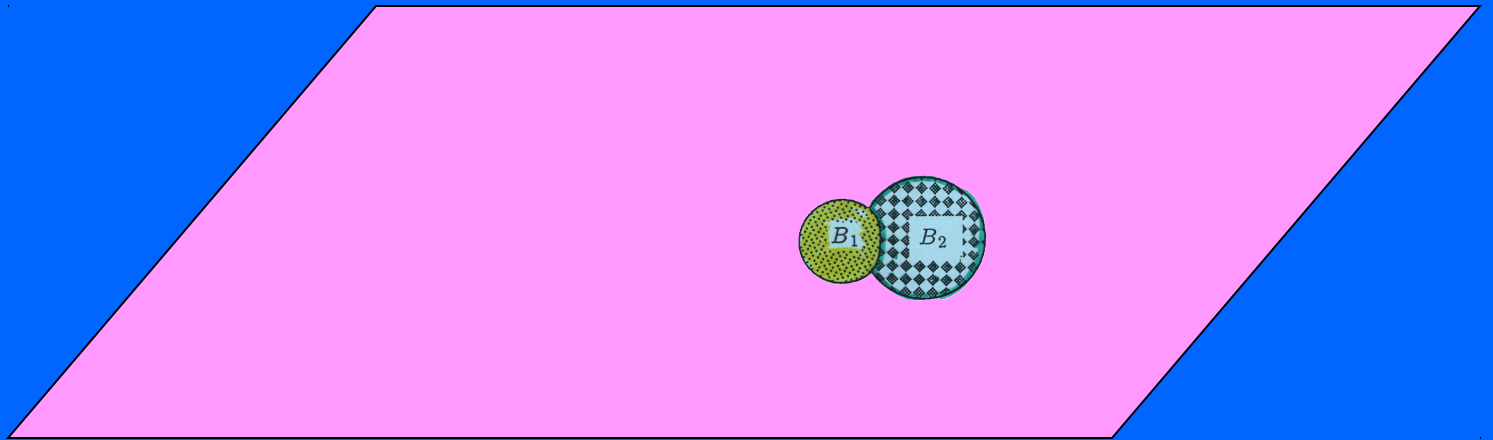


# BEST SINGLE BUBBLE IN TORUS $T^2$ :

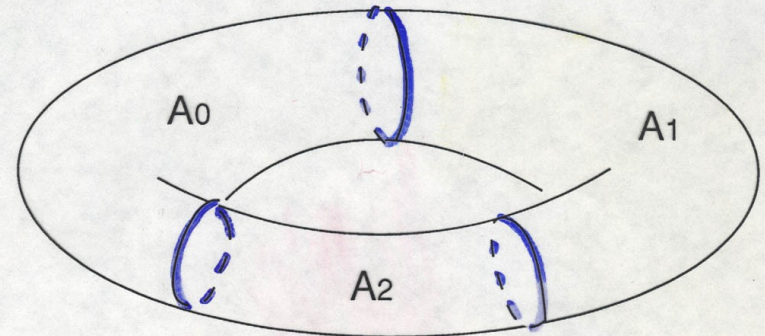
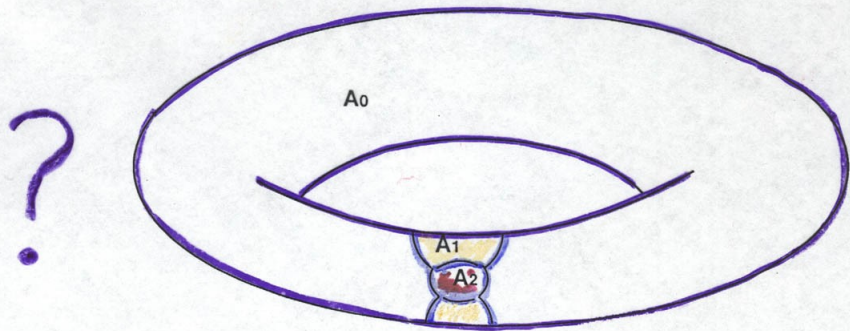
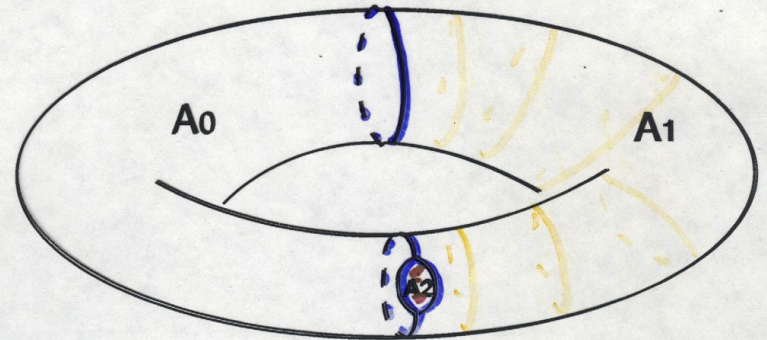
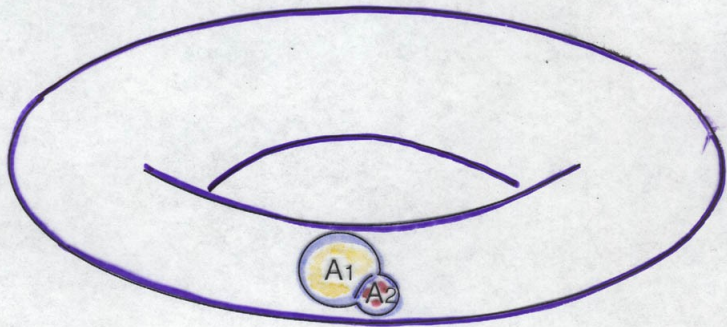


H. Howards '92

# BEST **DOUBLE** BUBBLE IN TORUS $T^2$ ?

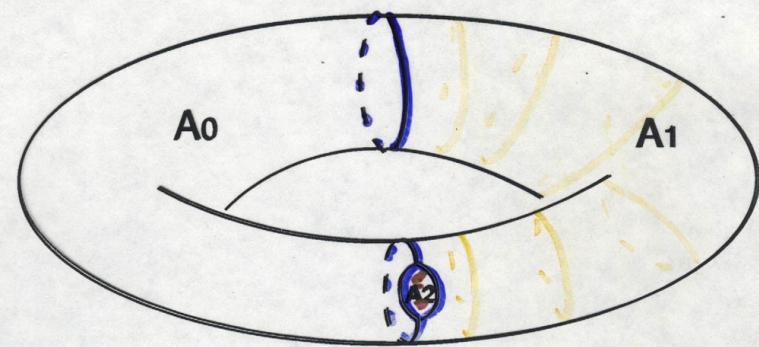
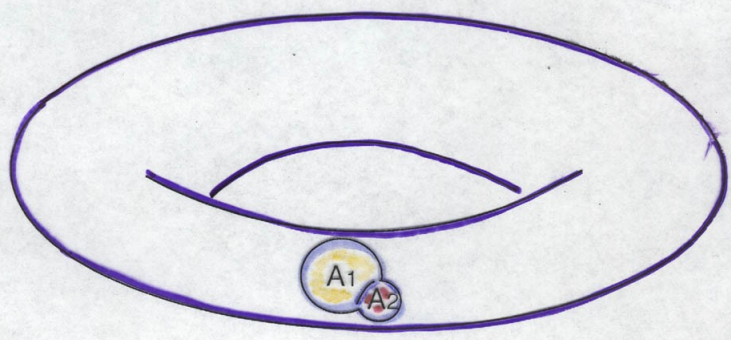


# MASTERS' CONJ (1994)

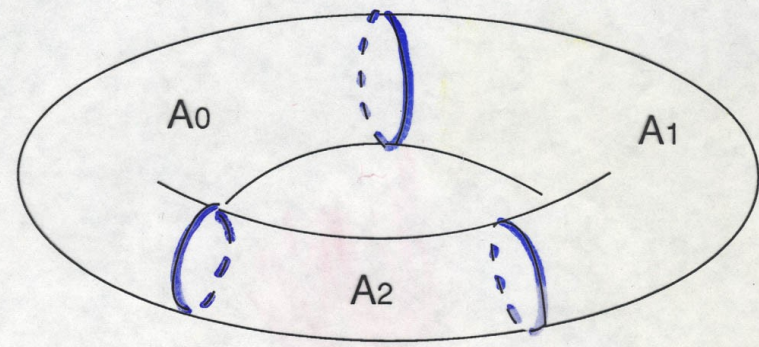
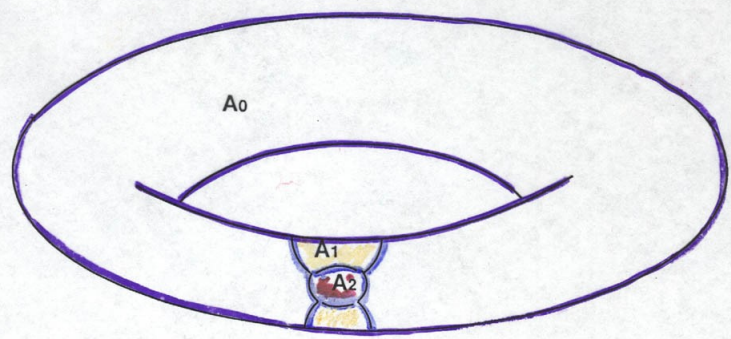


**CHAIN**

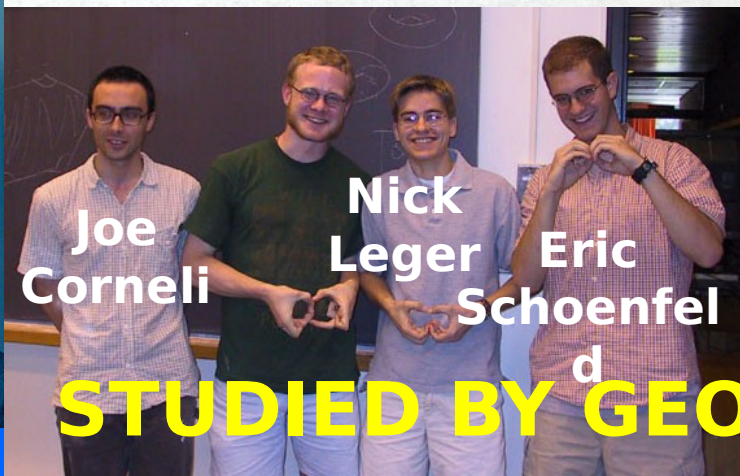
# MASTERS' CONJ (1994)



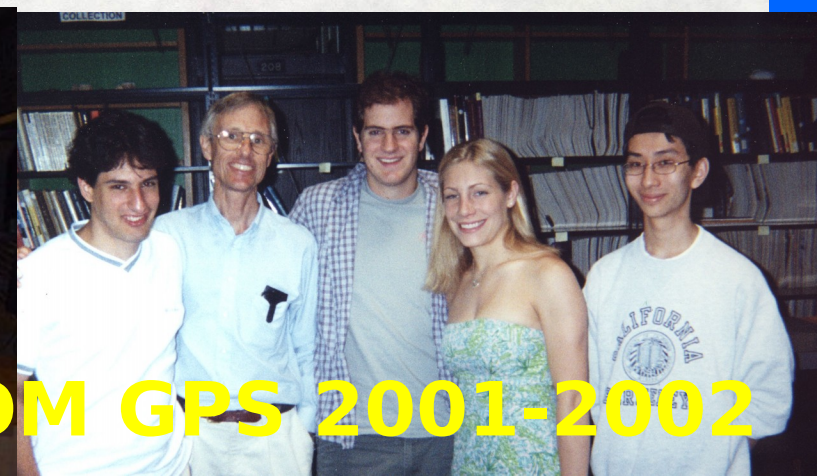
?



**Ben**  
Steinhurst

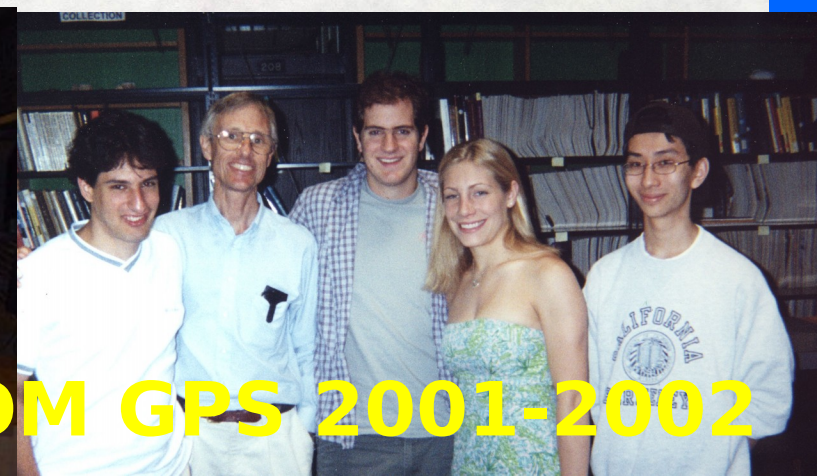
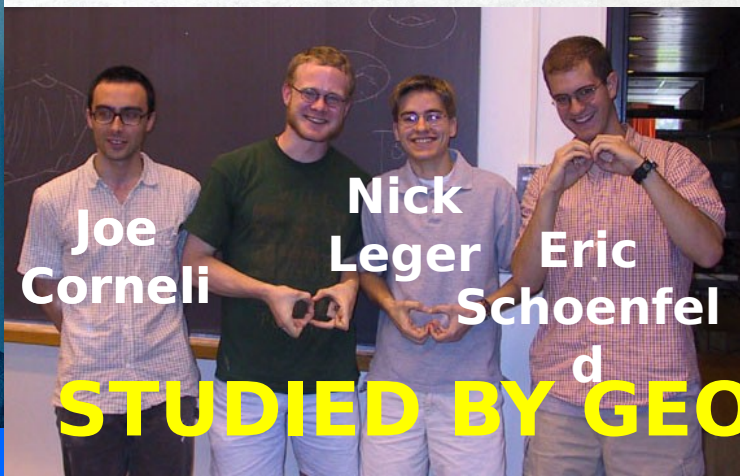
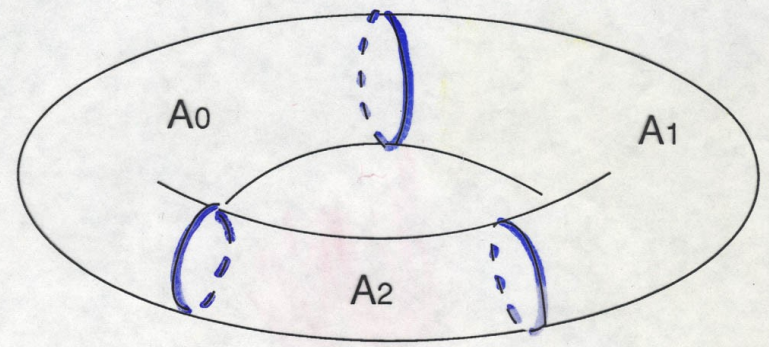
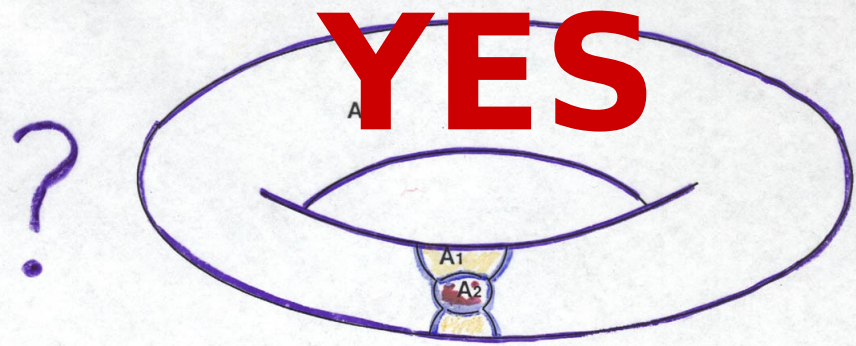
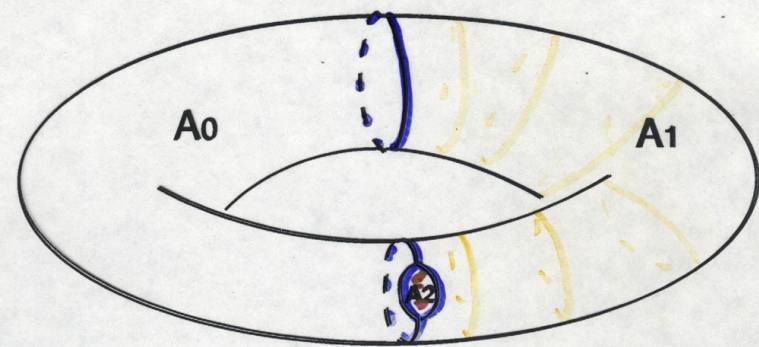
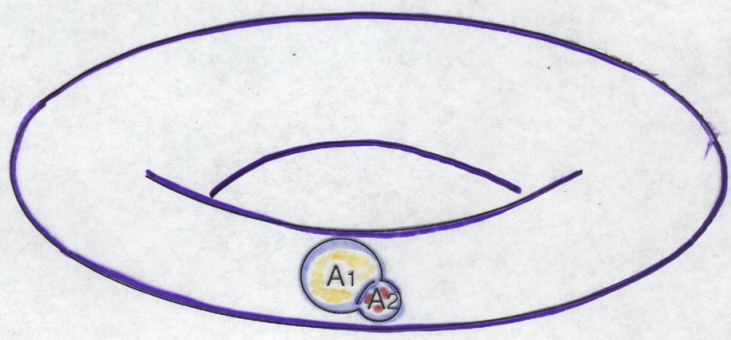


Joe  
Corneli      Nick  
Leger      Eric  
Schoenfeld



**STUDIED BY GEOM GPS 2001-2002**

# MASTERS' CONJ (1994)

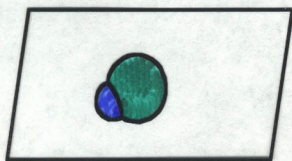


STUDIED BY GEOM GPS 2001-2002

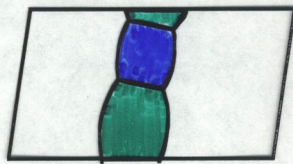
**THEOREM:**

# Geom Gp '01/'02

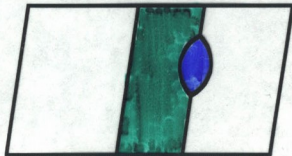
A perimeter-minimizing double bubble on the flat 2-torus is one of the following:



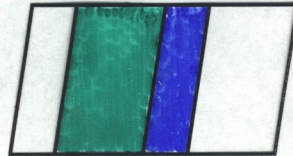
Standard Double Bubble



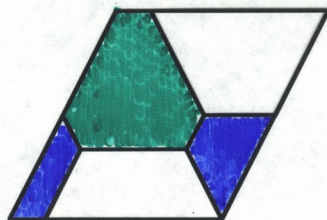
Standard Chain



Band Lens



Double Band



Standard Hexagon Tiling  
(on a 60 degree rhombus)



Geom Gp '01



Geom Gp '02

**NOT OCTAGON-SQUARE**

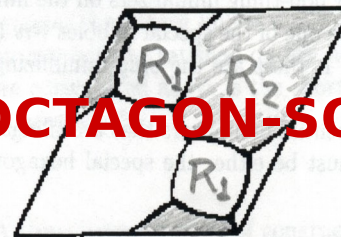
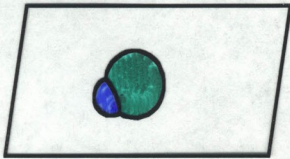


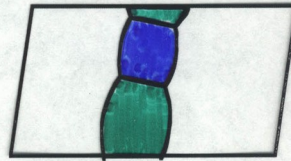
Figure 1: The six minimizer candidates on the flat two-torus. [#6. An octagon-square tiling.]

# THEOREM:

A perimeter-minimizing double bubble on the flat 2-torus is one of the following:



Standard Double Bubble



Standard Chain



**NOT OCTAGON-SQUARE**

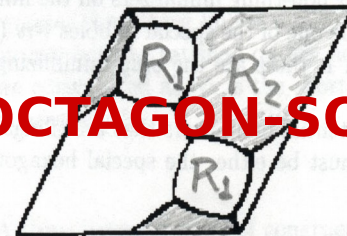
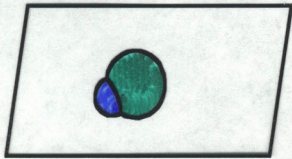


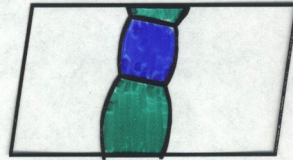
Figure 1: The six minimizer candidates on the flat two-torus. [#6. An octagon-square tiling.]

# THEOREM: Geom Gp '01/'02

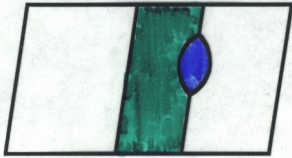
A perimeter-minimizing double bubble on the flat 2-torus is one of the following



Standard Double Bubble



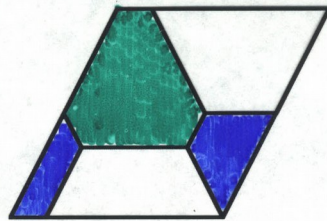
Standard Chain



Band Lens

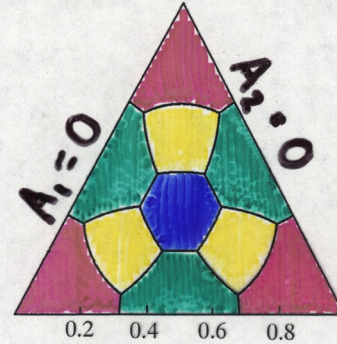


Double Band

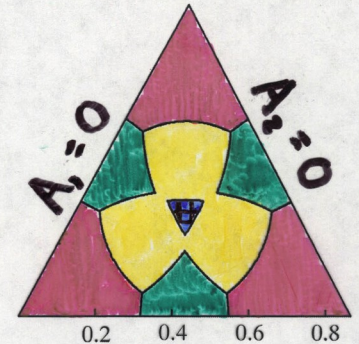


Standard Hexagon Tiling  
(on a 60 degree rhombus)

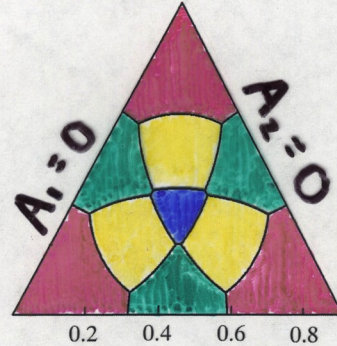
Winner Given  $(A_1, A_2)$



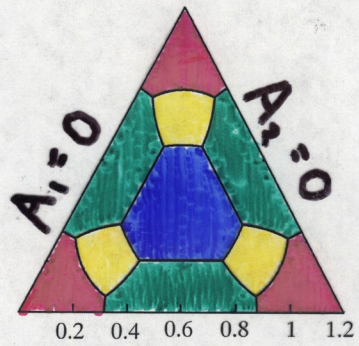
(a) Square torus ( $\theta = \pi/2$ )



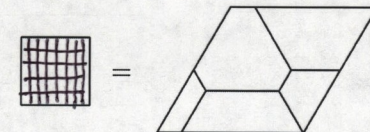
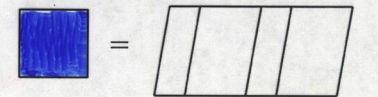
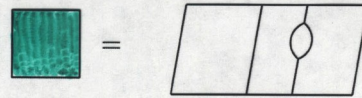
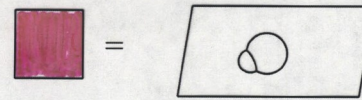
(b) Hexagonal torus ( $\theta = \pi/3$ )



(c) Intermediate angled torus ( $\theta = 65^\circ$ )

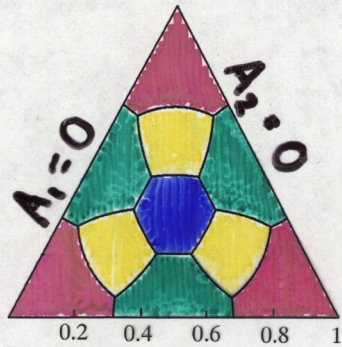


(d) Rectangular torus ( $L=1.2$ )

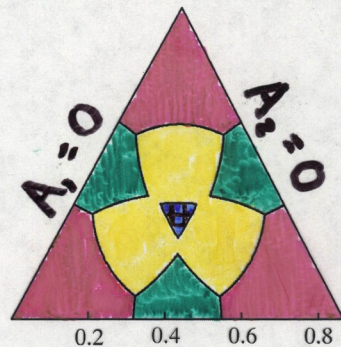




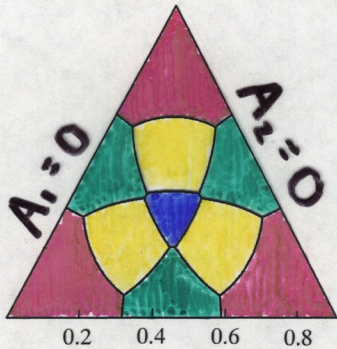
# Winner Given $(A_1, A_2)$



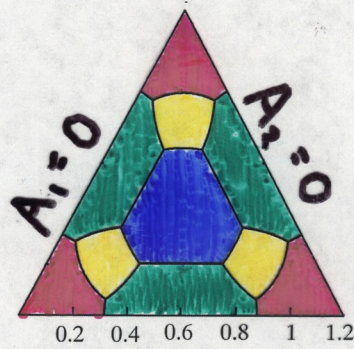
(a) Square torus ( $\theta = \pi/2$ )



(b) Hexagonal torus ( $\theta = \pi/3$ )



(c) Intermediate angled torus ( $\theta = 65^\circ$ )



(d) Rectangular torus ( $L=1.2$ )

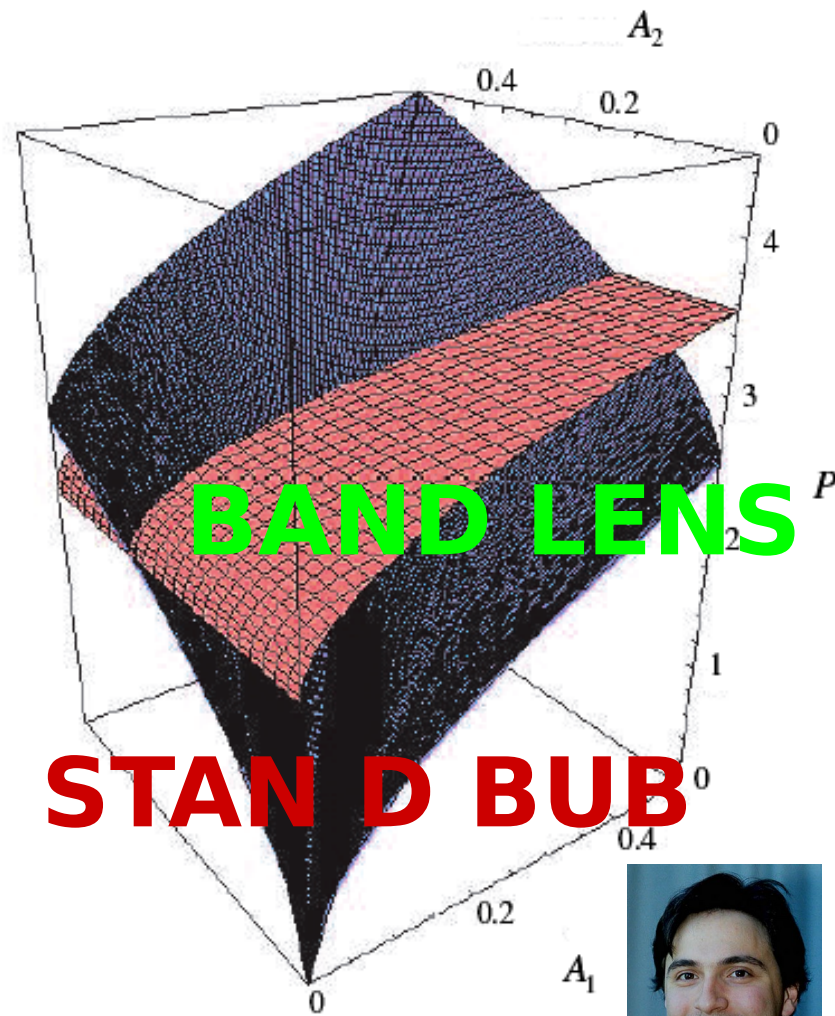
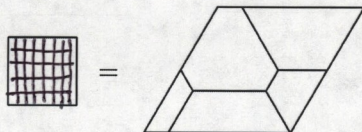
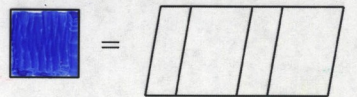
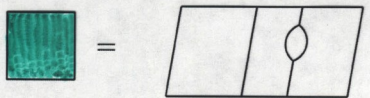
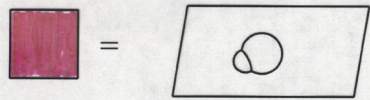
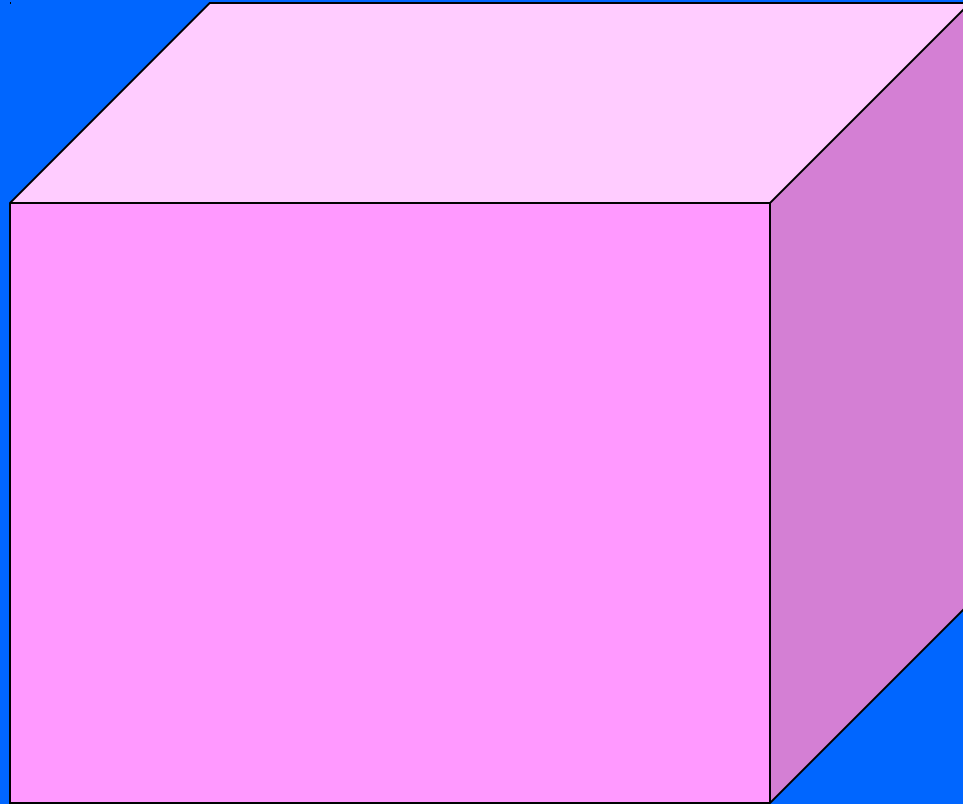
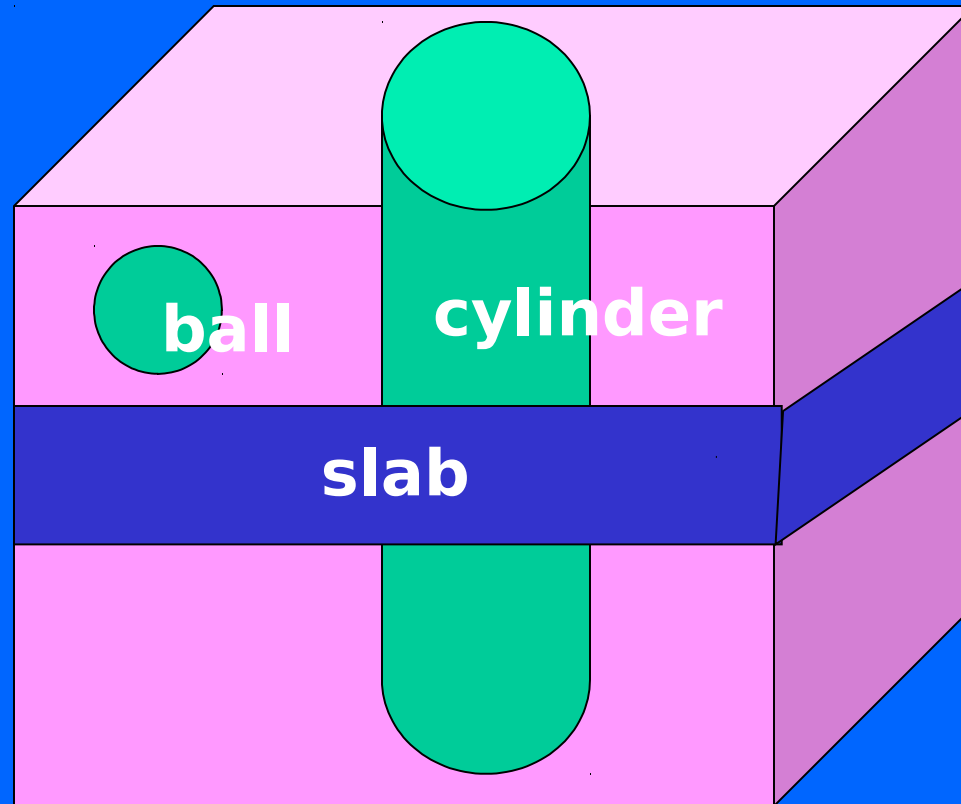


FIGURE 37. This *Mathematica* plot of the intersection of two surfaces shows the process used to create the phase portraits in the previous section. The plots suggest that perimeters do not fluctuate wildly in sets of unusual area pairs, increasing our confidence that the phase portraits are accurate.

# BUBBLES ON 3D TORUS



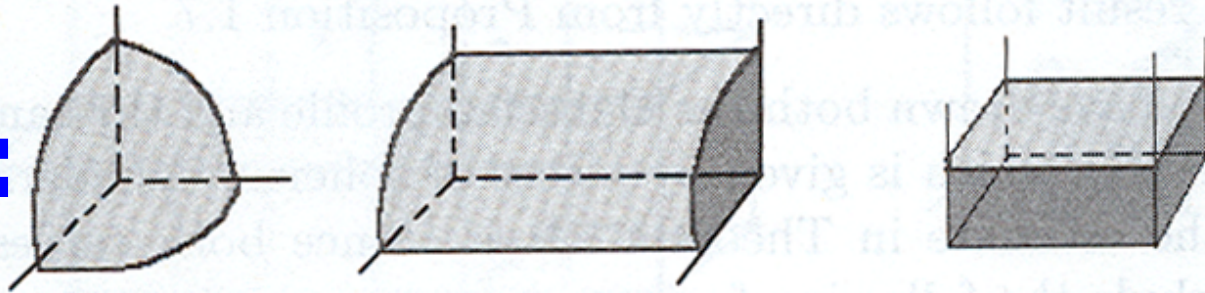
# BEST SINGLE BUBBLE ON 3D CUBIC TORUS



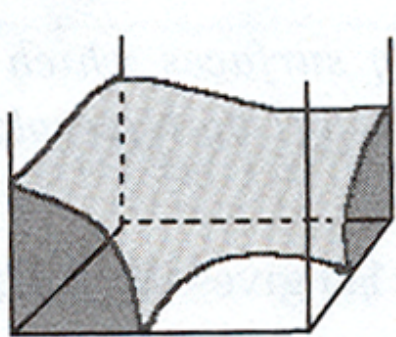
**CONJECTURE** (Ritoré and Ros)

**1.5. Cubes and boxes.** Consider the box  $W = (0, a_1) \times \cdots \times (0, a_n) \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  with  $0 < a_1 \leq \cdots \leq a_n$ . The unit cube corresponds to the case  $a_1 = \cdots = a_n = 1$ . First we observe that the symmetrization argument of section §1.3 implies that the isoperimetric problem in  $W$  is equivalent (after reflection through the faces of the box) to the isoperimetric problem in the rectangular torus  $T^n = \mathbb{R}^n / \Gamma$ , where  $\Gamma$  is the lattice generated by the vectors  $(2a_1, 0, \dots, 0), \dots, (0, \dots, 0, 2a_n)$ .

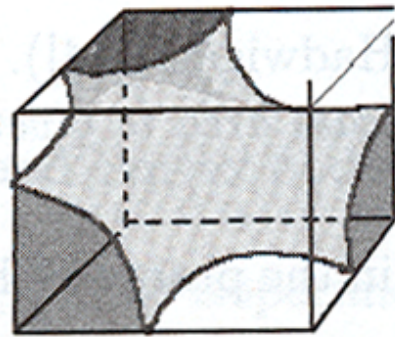
**CONJ:**



**CLOSE:**



Lawson

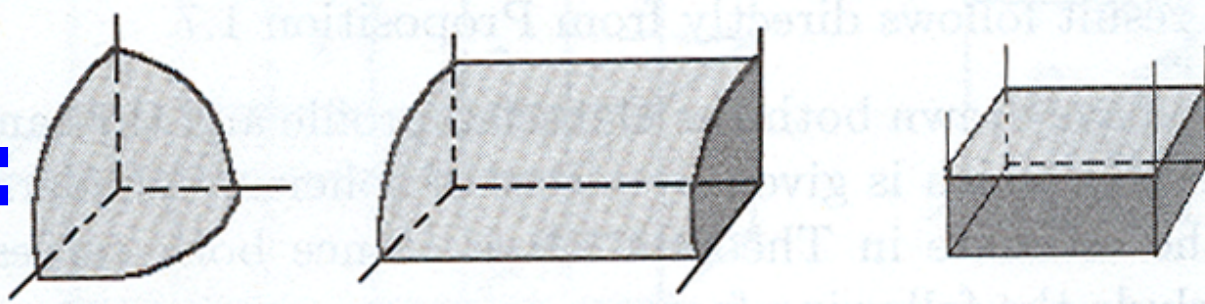


Schwarz

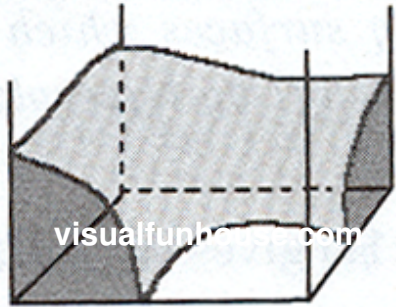
**within .03%**

FIGURE 9. Candidates for isoperimetric surfaces in the cube.

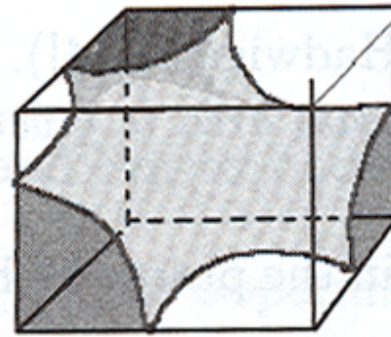
**CONJ:**



**CLOSE:**



Lawson



Schwarz

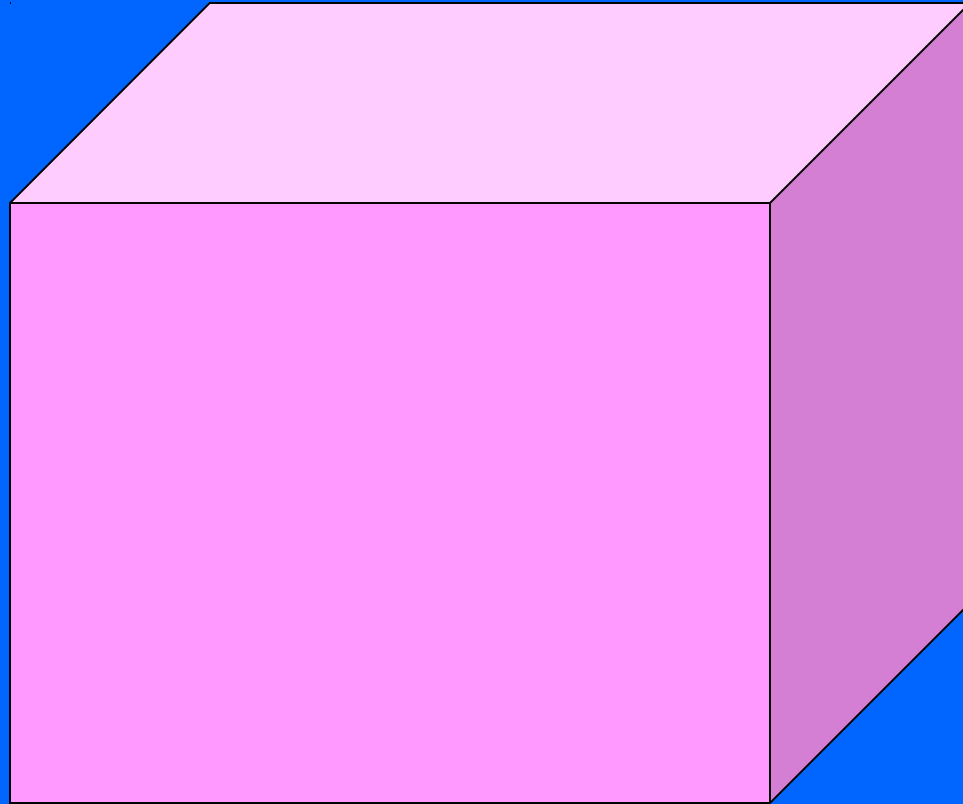
**within .03%**

FIGURE 9. Candidates for isoperi

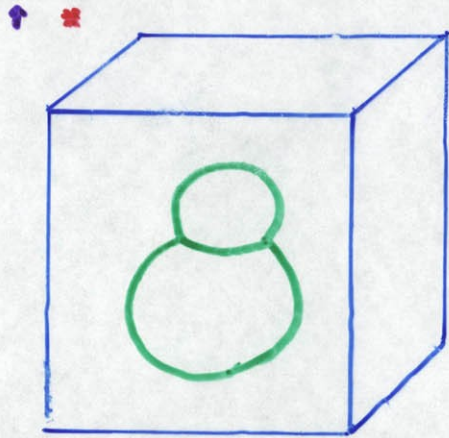
**In skewed cube,  
beats conjecture  
by .02% (Romon).**



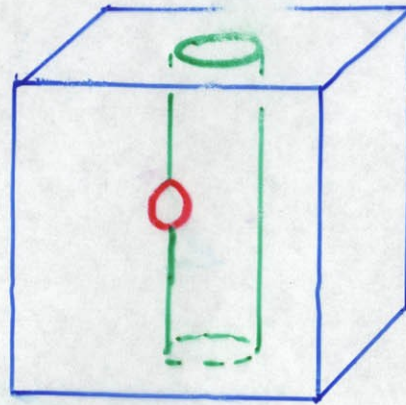
# BEST DOUBLE BUBBLE ON 3D TORUS



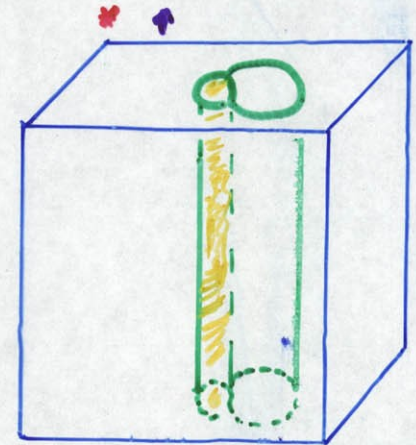
# DBL BUBBLES ON 3D TORUS



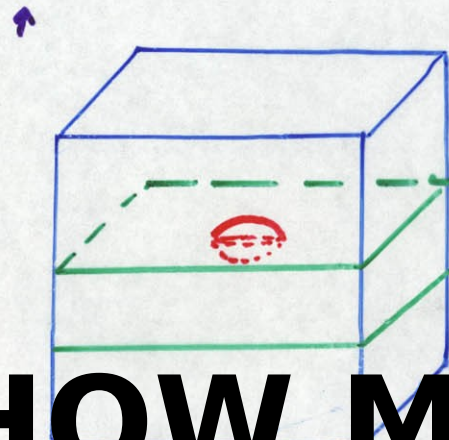
DBL BUB (BARIS)



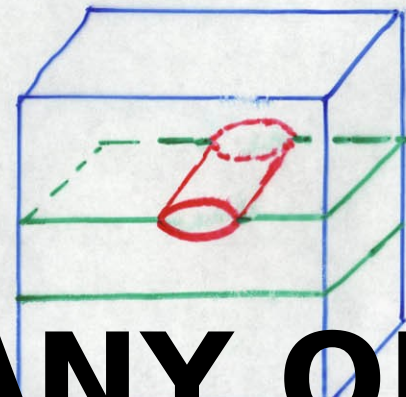
CYL w/ LENS  
(SHAB & DENISE)



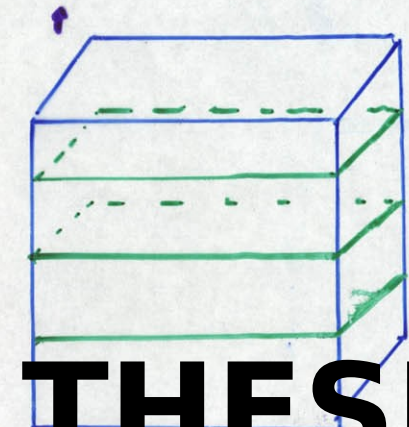
DBL CYL (JOE)



SLAB w/ LENS  
(MATT)



SLAB w/ CYL  
(MATT)



DBL SLAB  
(MIGUEL)

Q. HOW MANY OF THESE  
ARE WINNERS? **ALL 6**

ALL  
CANDs  
WIN  
EXCEPT  
SCARY  
GARY

# DOUBLE BUBBLE CANDIDATES

|              | STANDARD<br>DOUBLE<br>BUBBLE | DELAUNAY<br>SURFACE | DOUBLE<br>CYLINDER | DOUBLE<br>SLAB | CYLINDER<br>W/ LENS | SLAB W/<br>CYLINDER | SLAB W/<br>LENS | SCARY GARY<br>DBL BUBBLE |
|--------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
| 0.05<br>0.05 | 1.241                        | 1.272               | 1.423              | 3.0            | 1.306               | 2.506               | 2.446           |                          |
| 0.10<br>0.10 | 1.971                        | 1.919               | 2.013              | 3.0            | 2.015               | 2.706               | 2.741           |                          |
| 0.15<br>0.15 | —                            | 2.461               | 2.465              | 3.0            | 2.564               | 2.860               | 3.011           | 2.869                    |
| 0.20<br>0.20 | —                            | 2.948               | 2.846              | 3.0            | 3.036               | 2.993               | 3.312           | 3.254                    |
| 0.25<br>0.25 | —                            | 3.402               | 3.182              | 3.0            | 3.452               | 3.135               | —               | 3.49                     |
| 0.08<br>0.02 | 1.197                        | 1.235               | 1.369              | 3.0            | 1.331               | 2.323               | 2.248           |                          |
| 0.16<br>0.04 | 1.901                        | 1.868               | 1.936              | 3.0            | 1.871               | 2.448               | 2.384           |                          |
| 0.24<br>0.06 | —                            | 2.396               | 2.372              | 3.0            | 2.326               | 2.544               | 2.507           |                          |
| 0.32<br>0.08 | —                            | 2.871               | 2.738              | 3.0            | 2.717               | 2.630               | 2.629           |                          |
| 0.40<br>0.10 | —                            | 3.312               | 3.062              | 3.0            | 3.074               | 2.709               | 2.740           |                          |



# “DOUBLE BUBBLES IN THE 3-TORUS”

BY...



JOE CORNELI



GENEVIEVE WALSH



MIGUEL CARRIÓN

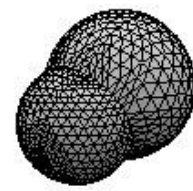


SHAB BEHESHTI

Exp  
Math  
2003

# DOUBLE BUBBLES IN THE 3-TORUS

## TEN WINNING TYPES



STANDARD DOUBLE BUBBLE



DÉLAUNEY CHAIN



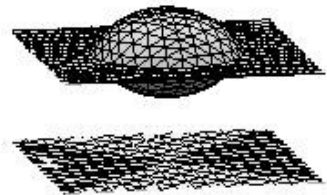
CYLINDER LENS



CYLINDER CROSS



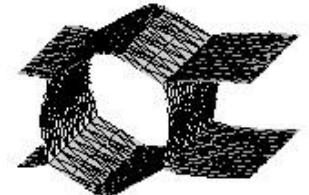
DOUBLE CYLINDER



SLAB LENS



CENTER BUBBLE



CYLINDER STRING



SLAB CYLINDER



DOUBLE SLAB

# Millersville Student Research Team



Steve Peurifoy

Steve Carter

Alden Stowe

Sean Evans

Dan Kravatz

Sherry Linn

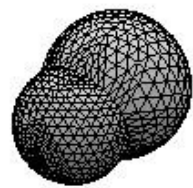
Nick Brubaker



**CHAIN**

# DOUBLE BUBBLES IN THE 3-TORUS

## TEN WINNING TYPES



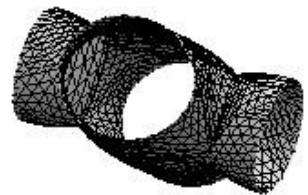
STANDARD DOUBLE BUBBLE



DÉLAUNEY CHAIN



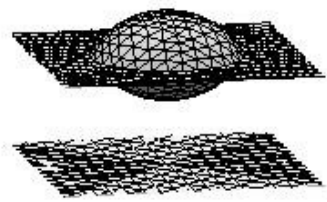
CYLINDER LENS



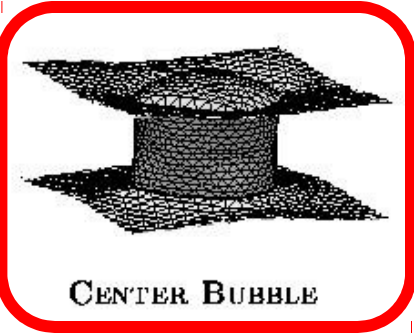
CYLINDER CROSS



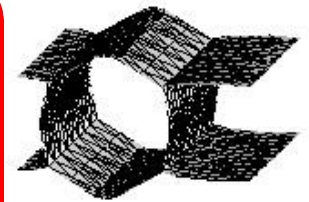
DOUBLE CYLINDER



SLAB LENS



CENTER BUBBLE



CYLINDER STRING



SLAB CYLINDER



DOUBLE SLAB



**CYLINDER SLAB**

# CENTER BUBBLE





**JOE CORNELI**



**GENEVIEVE WALSH**

**“Those are awesome.”**



**MIGUEL CARRIÓN**



**SHAB BEHESHTI**



# WHICH TYPE FOR WHICH VOLs?



STANDARD DOUBLE BUBBLE



DÉLAUNEY CHAIN



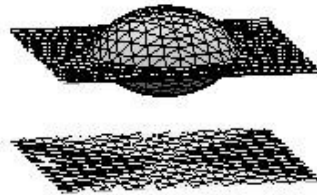
CYLINDER LENS



CYLINDER CROSS



DOUBLE CYLINDER



SLAB LENS



CENTER BUBBLE



CYLINDER STRING



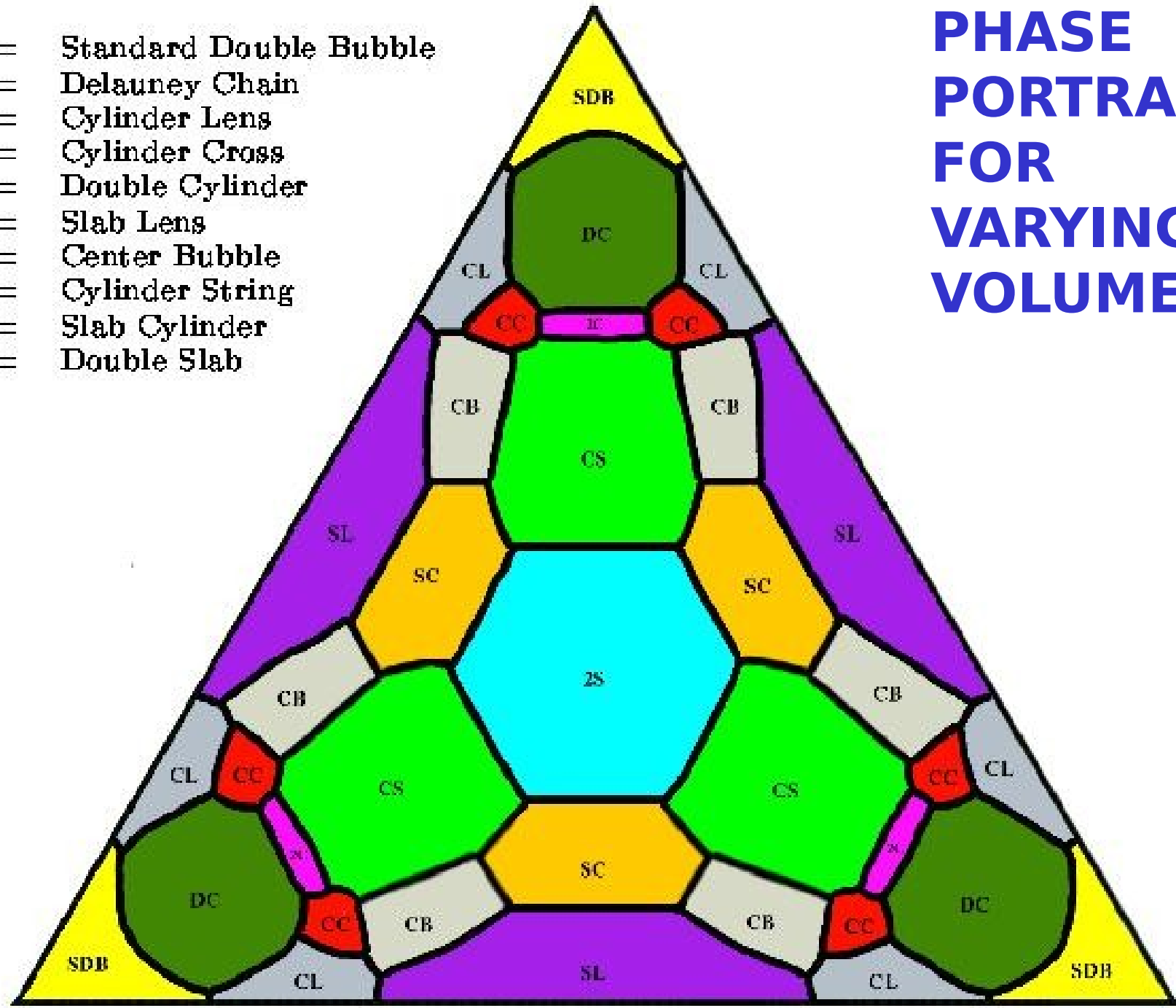
SLAB CYLINDER



DOUBLE SLAB

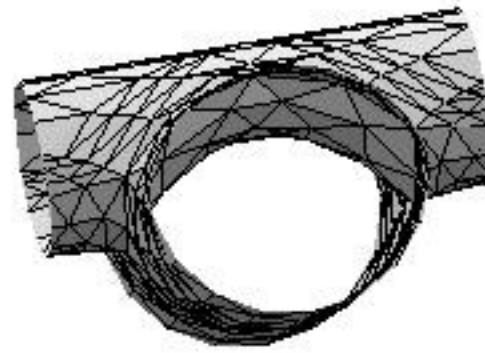
# PHASE PORTRAIT FOR VARYING VOLUMES

- SDB = Standard Double Bubble
- DC = Delauney Chain
- CL = Cylinder Lens
- CC = Cylinder Cross
- 2C = Double Cylinder
- SL = Slab Lens
- CB = Center Bubble
- CS = Cylinder String
- SC = Slab Cylinder
- 2S = Double Slab

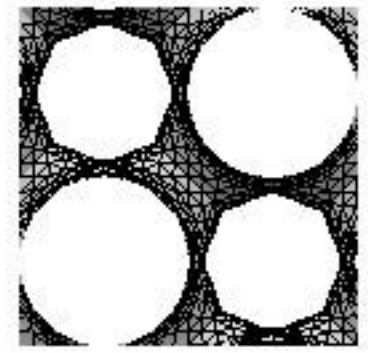




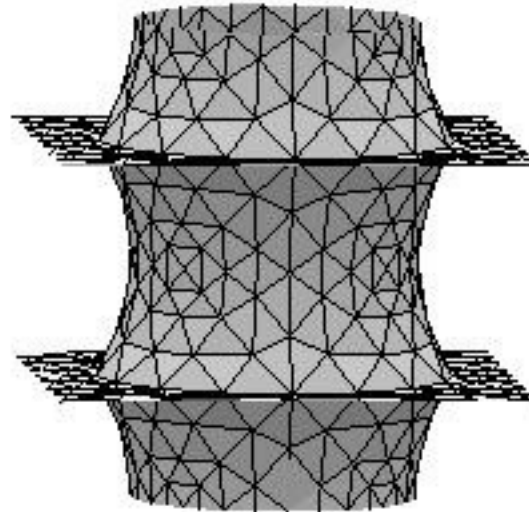
# DOUBLE BUBBLES IN THE 3-TORUS



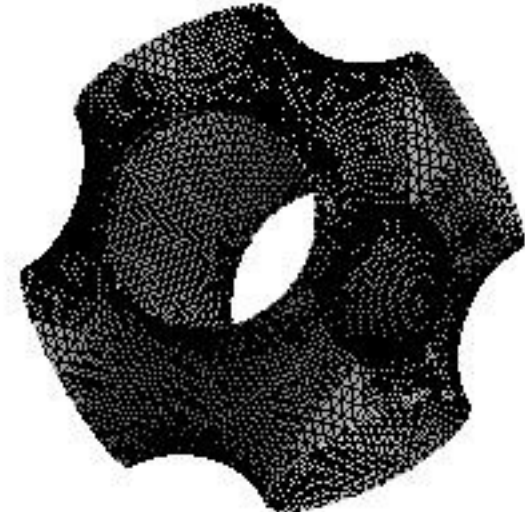
TRANSVERSE CYLINDERS



DOUBLE HYDRANT



CENTER CYLINDER



HYDRANT LENS

**LOSING CANDIDATES**



# DOUBLE BUBBLES IN THE 3-TORUS

## TEN WINNING TYPES (CONJ)



STANDARD DOUBLE BUBBLE



DÉLAUNEY CHAIN



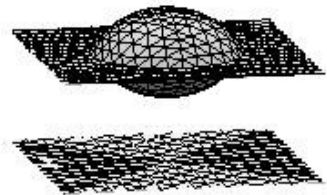
CYLINDER LENS



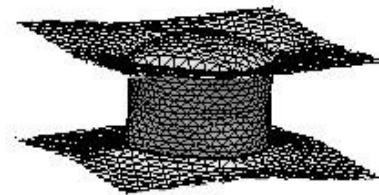
CYLINDER CROSS



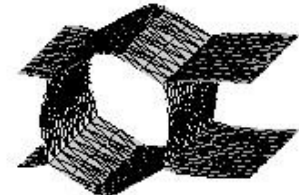
DOUBLE CYLINDER



SLAB LENS



CENTER BUBBLE



CYLINDER STRING



SLAB CYLINDER

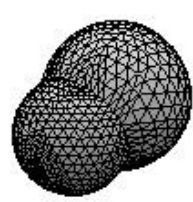


DOUBLE SLAB

# DOUBLE BUBBLES IN THE 3-TORUS

TEN WINNING

THANK YOU  
(CONJ)



STANDARD DOUBLE BUBBLE



DÉLAUNEY CHAIN



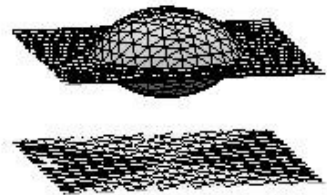
CYLINDER LENS



CYLINDER CROSS



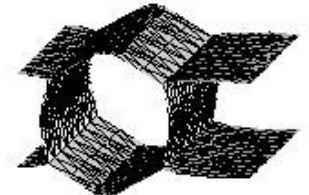
DOUBLE CYLINDER



SLAB LENS



CENTER BUBBLE



CYLINDER STRING



SLAB CYLINDER



DOUBLE SLAB