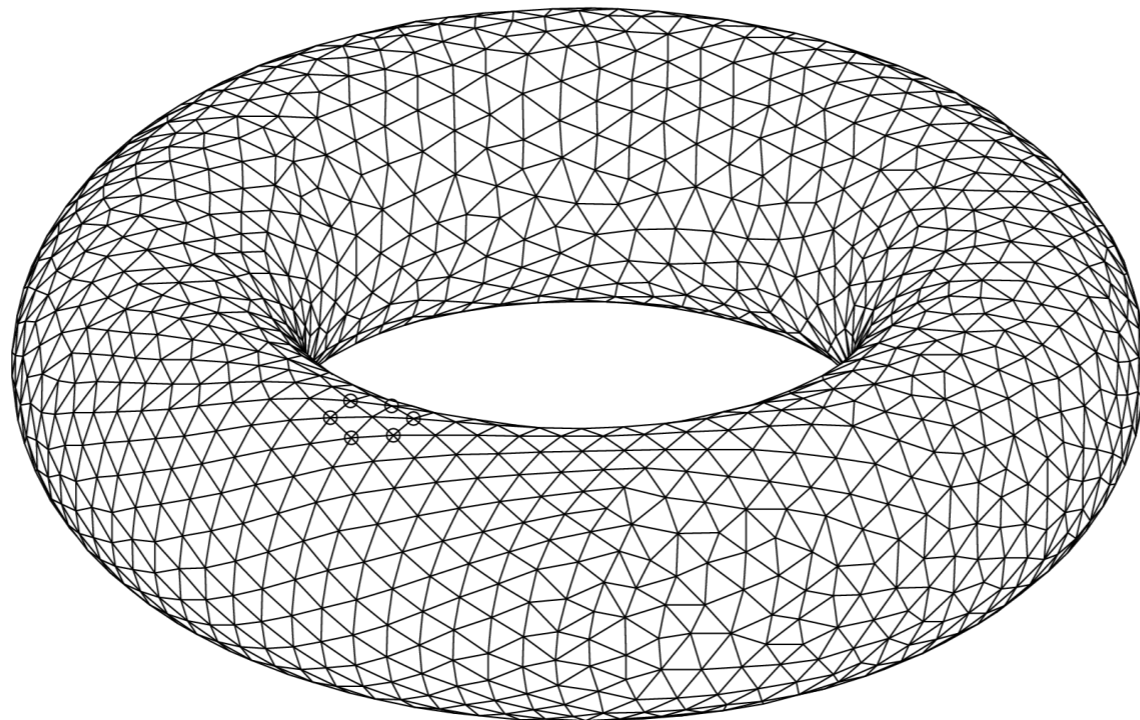


# Local conditions for triangulating submanifolds of euclidean space

Jean-Daniel Boissonnat, Ramsay Dyer, Arijit Ghosh,  
André Lieutier, and Mathijs Wintraecken



# Local conditions for triangulating submanifolds of euclidean space

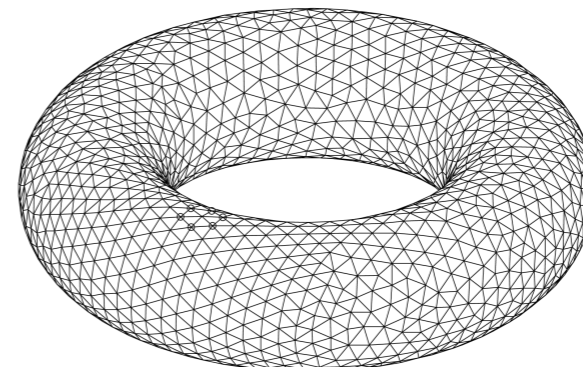
There are several algorithms that, given a points sample, produce a manifold triangulation.  
In particular:

- 1) Tangential Delaunay Complex (Boissonnat et al.)
- 2) Support of « some » simplicial cycle

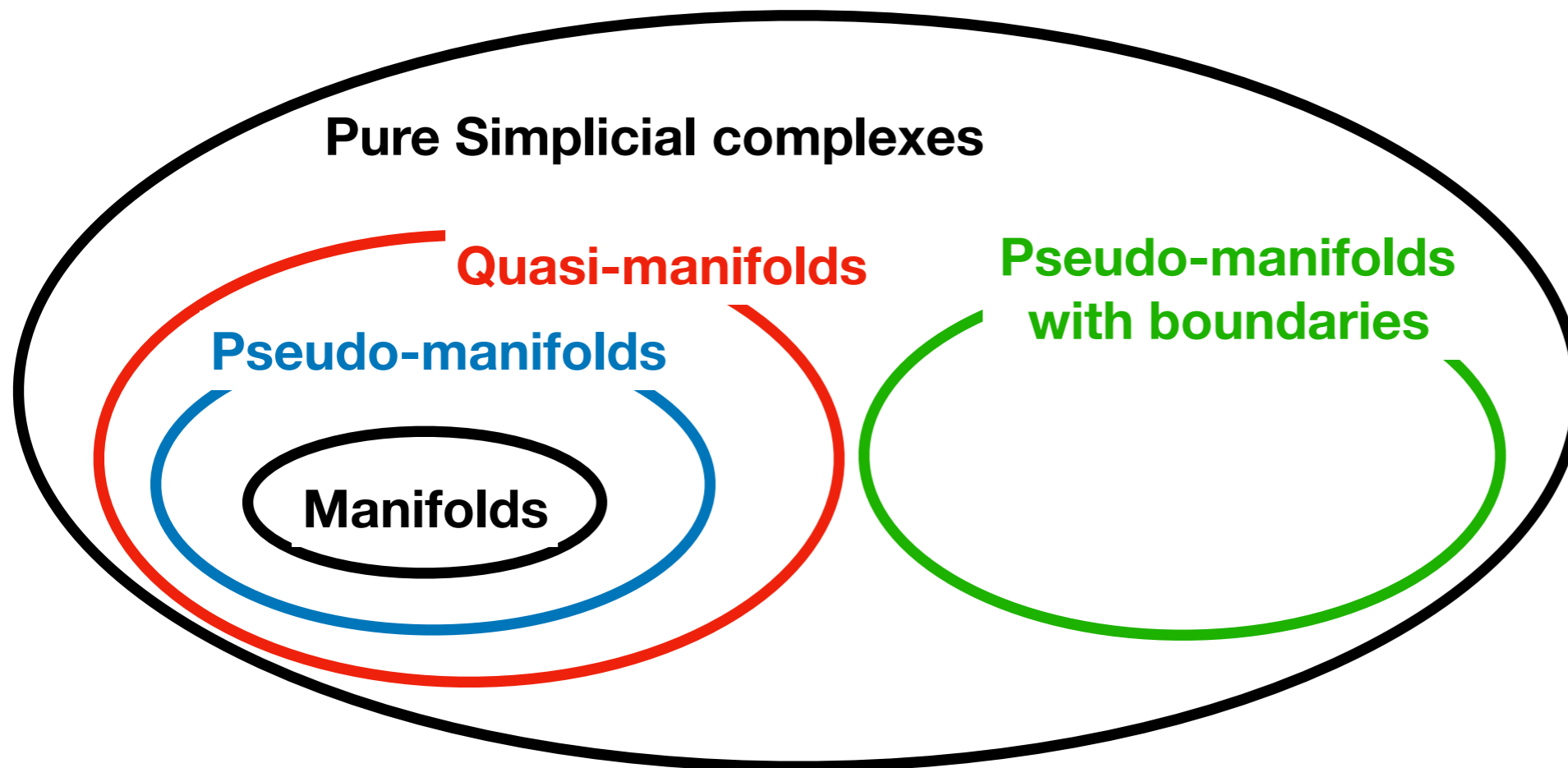
Local conditions on a simplicial complex

Global homeomorphism  
(= submanifolds triangulation)

Today's presentation



# Our simplicial complex zoo



$n$  = number of full-dimensional cofaces of  $(m - 1)$ -simplices

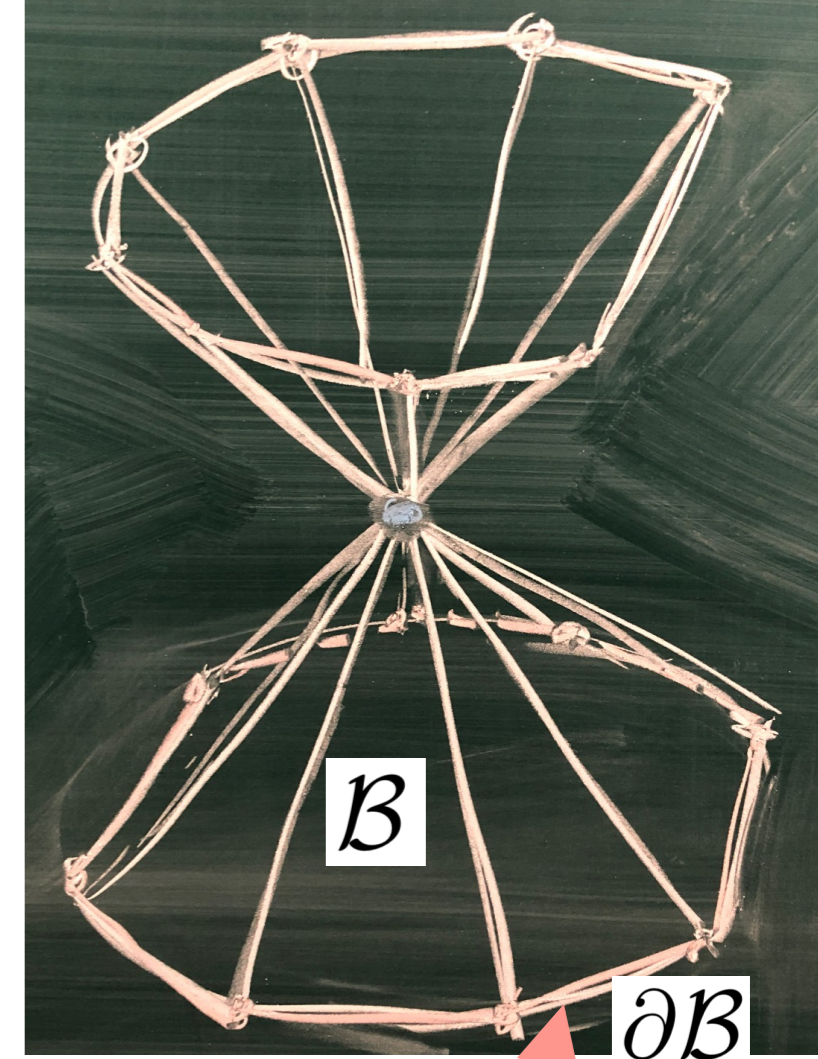
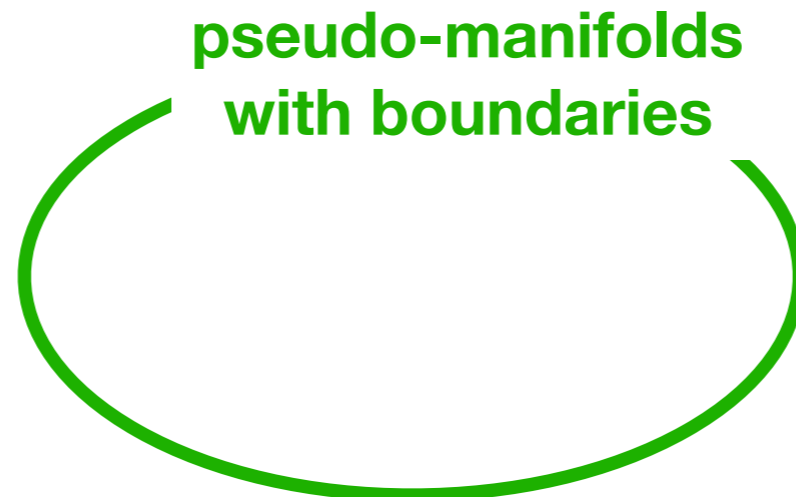
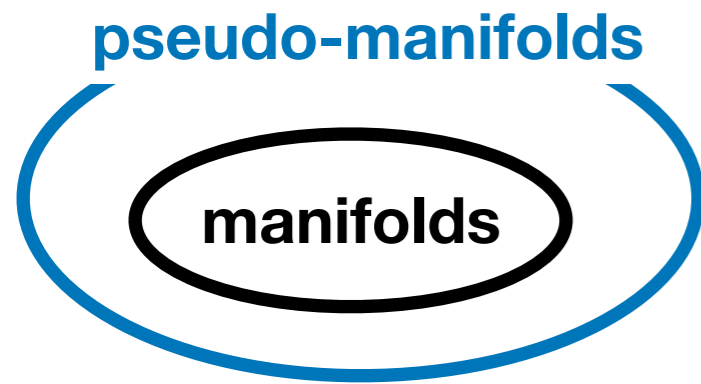
**Quasi-manifold:**  $n \geq 2$

**Pseudo-manifold:**  $n = 2$

**Pseudo-manifold with boundaries:**  $1 \leq n \leq 2$

**Definition 2.** A pure  $m$ -dimensional simplicial complex  $K$  is a quasi-manifold if any  $(m - 1)$ -simplex has at least 2 full dimensional cofaces.

# Pseudo-manifolds



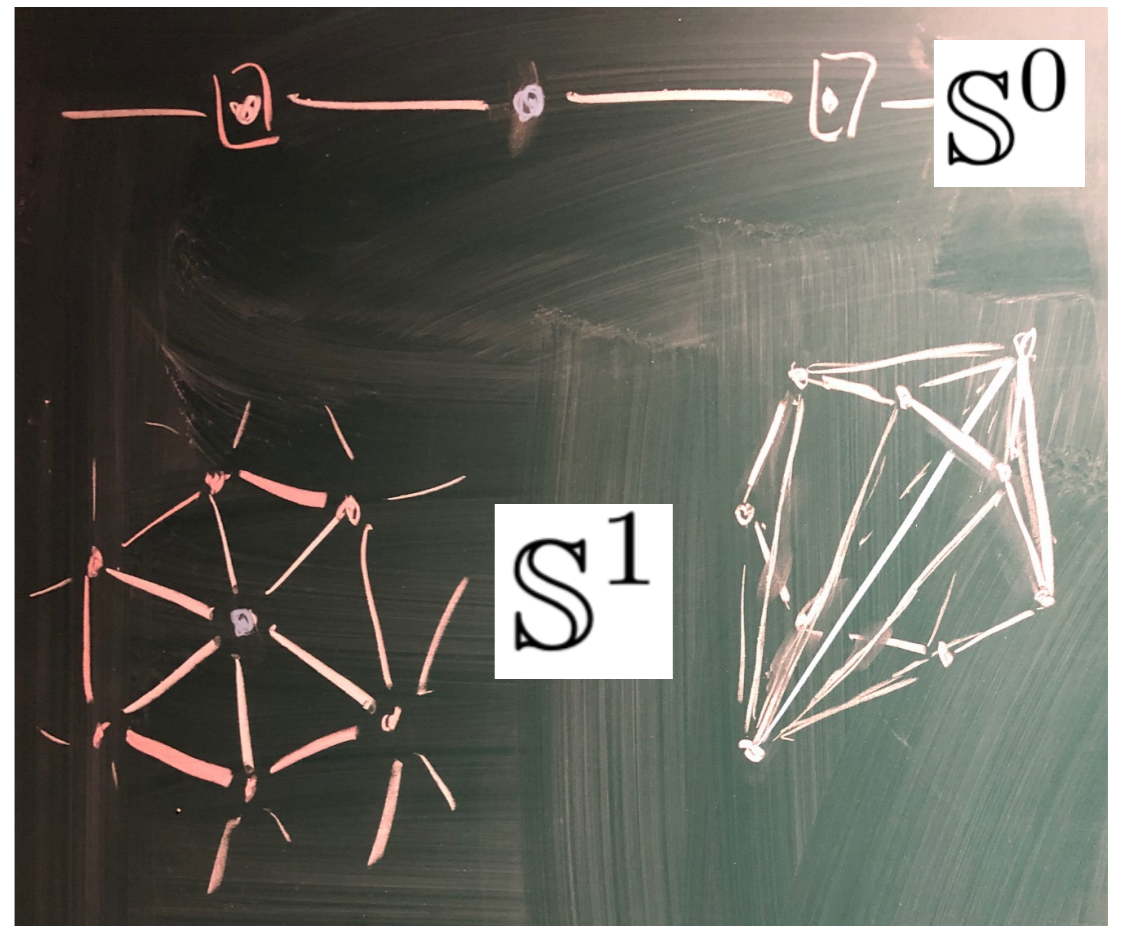
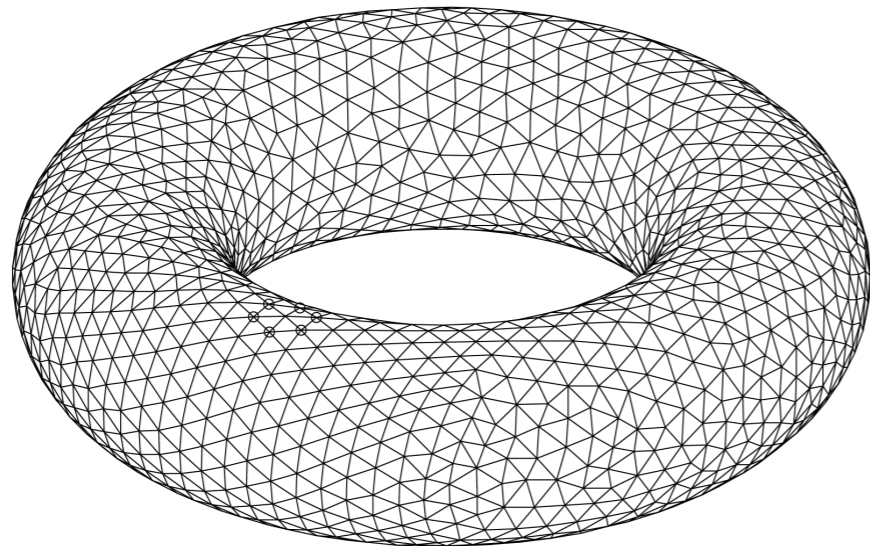
**Definition 16 (Pseudo-manifold with boundary)** An  $m$ -dimensional simplicial complex is a *pseudo-manifold with boundary* if it is pure and if any  $(m-1)$ -simplex has *at most two*  $m$ -dimensional cofaces. The *boundary*  $\partial\mathcal{B}$  of an  $m$ -dimensional pseudo-manifold simplicial complex  $\mathcal{B}$  with boundary, is the  $(m-1)$ -simplicial complex made of the closure of all  $(m-1)$ -simplices with exactly one  $m$ -dimensional coface, that is the simplices and their faces.

Boundary



# Manifolds

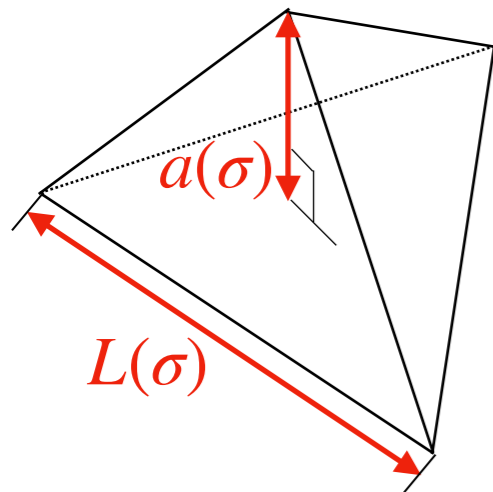
**Definition 1.** *A  $m$ -dimensional simplicial complex  $K$  is a combinatorial manifold if the link of each  $k$ -simplex is homeomorphic to the  $(m - k - 1)$ -sphere  $S^{m-k-1}$ .*



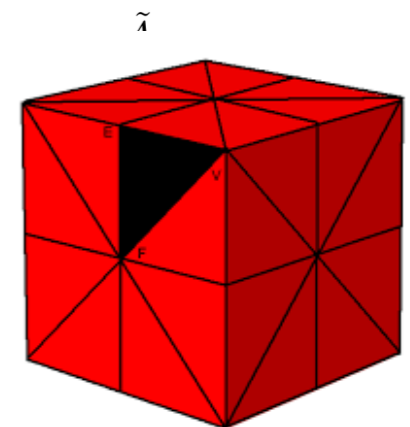
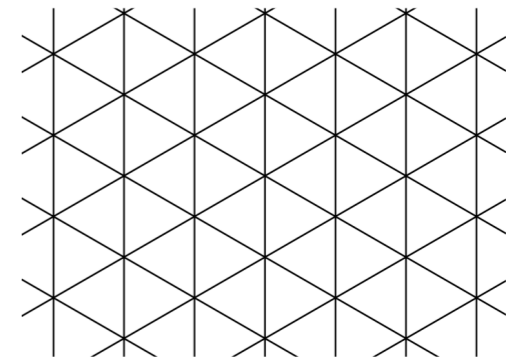
# simplex quality

## Not too large, not too flat:

**Notation 1 (Simplex quality)** The *thickness* of a  $m$ -simplex  $\sigma$ , denoted  $t(\sigma)$ , is given by  $\frac{a}{mL}$ , where  $a = a(\sigma)$  is the smallest altitude of  $\sigma$  and  $L = L(\sigma)$  is the length of the longest edge. The altitude of a vertex in a simplex is the distance from the vertex to the affine hull of the opposite face. Observe that  $t \leq 1/m$  and might be in fact  $O(m^{-3/2})$  [CKW17]. We set  $t(\sigma) = 1$  if  $\sigma$  has dimension 0.



$$t(\sigma) = \frac{a(\sigma)}{mL(\sigma)}$$



# Main theorem

**Theorem 4 (Triangulation of submanifolds)** *Let  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be a connected  $C^2$   $m$ -dimensional submanifold of  $\mathbb{R}^N$  with reach  $\text{rch}(M) > 0$ , and  $\mathcal{P} \subset M$  a finite set of points. Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is an  $m$ -dimensional quasi-manifold simplicial complex whose vertex set  $\mathcal{A}^0$  is identified with  $\mathcal{P}$ . Let  $L, t > 0$  be such that for any  $m$ -simplex  $\sigma \in \mathcal{A}$  one has:*

$$t \leq t(\sigma) \quad \text{and} \quad L(\sigma) \leq L.$$

*If:*

(a) *All simplices are small with respect to the reach:*

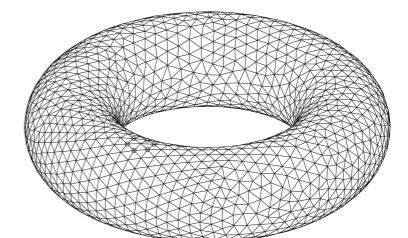
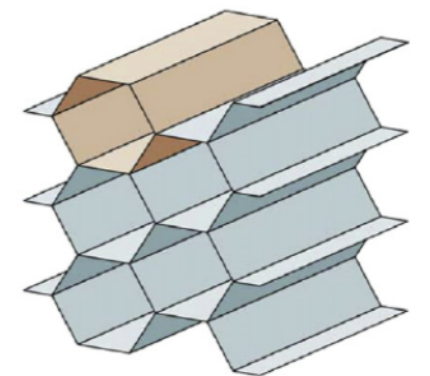
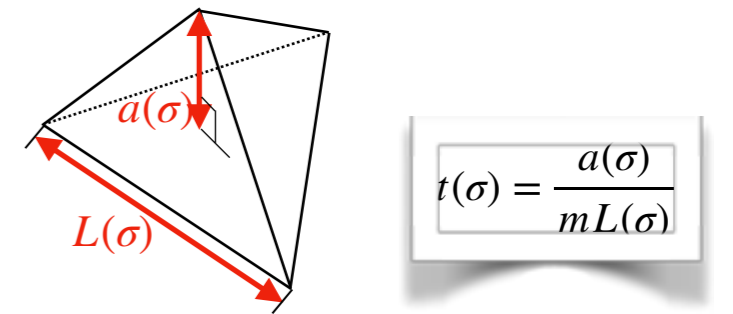
$$\frac{L}{\text{rch}(M)} \leq \min \left( \frac{1}{8}, t \sin \pi/8 \right).$$

(b) *The projection of simplices on local tangent planes have disjoint interiors:*

$$\forall p \in \mathcal{P}, \forall \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in \mathcal{A} \text{ with } |\sigma_1|, |\sigma_2| \subset B(p, 2.8L), \\ \sigma_1 \neq \sigma_2 \Rightarrow \text{pr}_{T_p M}(|\sigma_1|)^\circ \cap \text{pr}_{T_p M}(|\sigma_2|)^\circ = \emptyset.$$

*Then:*

- (1) *The inclusion  $\iota : |\mathcal{A}| \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$  is an embedding, and we can identify  $\iota(|\mathcal{A}|)$  with  $|\mathcal{A}|$ .*
- (2) *The closest-point projection map  $\text{pr}_M|_{|\mathcal{A}|} : |\mathcal{A}| \rightarrow M$  is a homeomorphism, so  $M$  is compact, and there is an ambient isotopy bringing  $|\mathcal{A}|$  to  $M$ .*



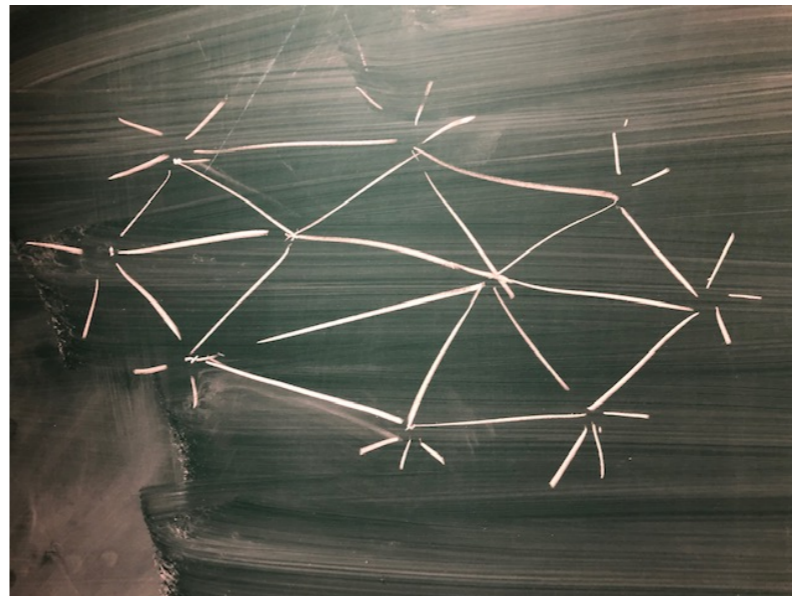


# Euclidean version

$K^m$  is a  $m$  – quasi-manifold (i.e. Each  $(m-1)$ -simplex has at least two  $m$ -cofaces, i.e. « no boundaries »)

$\pi : K^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is Piecewise Linear and non degenerate

$$\sigma_1^m \neq \sigma_2^m \Rightarrow \pi(\sigma_1^m)^\circ \cap \pi(\sigma_2^m)^\circ = \emptyset$$

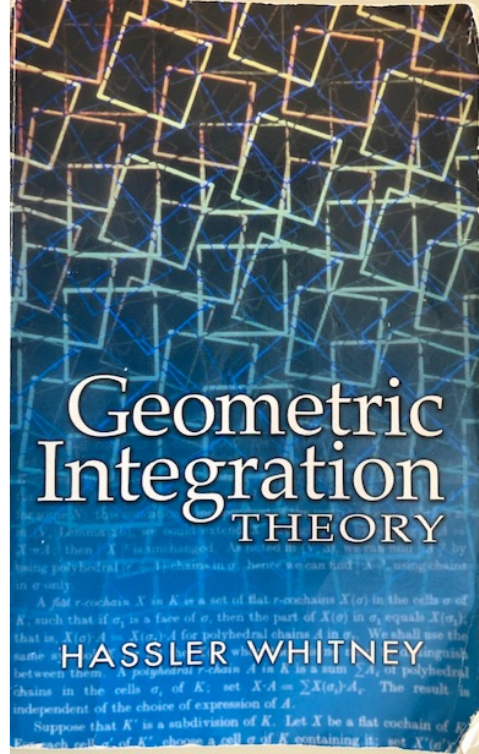


Then  $\pi$  is injective and open and  $K^m$  is a manifold

The proof of the euclidean case is a crucial step in the proof of the general Theorem:  
it applies to the projection of a local subset of the simplicial complex a local tangent plane

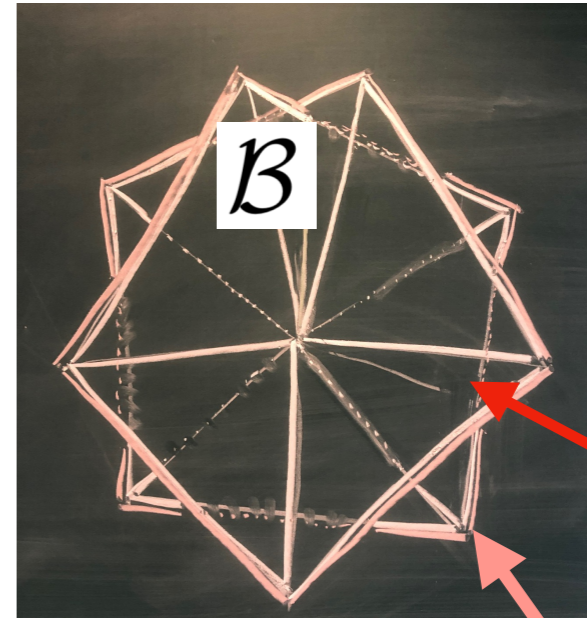


# Whitney Lemma



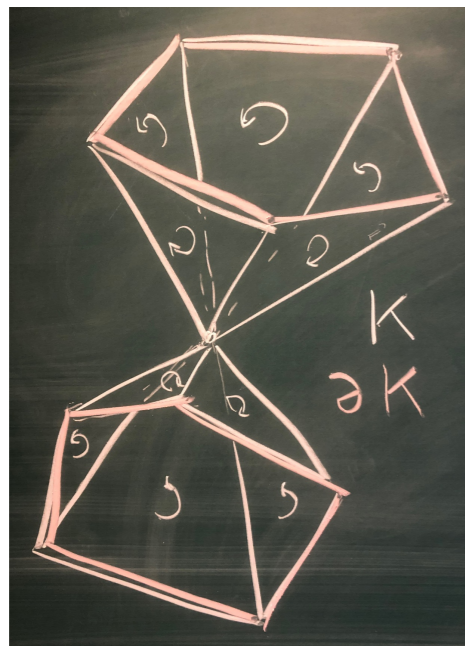
**Definition 18 (Oriented pseudo-manifold)** An  $m$ -dimensional pseudo-manifold with boundary  $\mathcal{B}$  is said to be *oriented* if each  $m$ -simplex is given an orientation such that, if  $\Gamma$  is the  $m$ -chain over  $\mathbb{Z}$  (or  $\mathbb{R}$ ) with coefficient 1 on each  $m$ -simplex of  $\mathcal{B}$  then the support of  $\partial\Gamma$  is precisely  $\partial\mathcal{B}$ .

**Definition 19 (Simplexwise positive map)** Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be an oriented  $m$ -dimensional pseudo-manifold with boundary. A piecewise linear map  $F : \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is said to be *simplexwise positive* if the image  $F(\sigma) = [F(v_0), \dots, F(v_m)]$  of each oriented  $m$ -simplex  $\sigma = [v_0, \dots, v_m] \in \mathcal{B}$  is a non-degenerate  $m$ -simplex embedded in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  and is positively oriented.



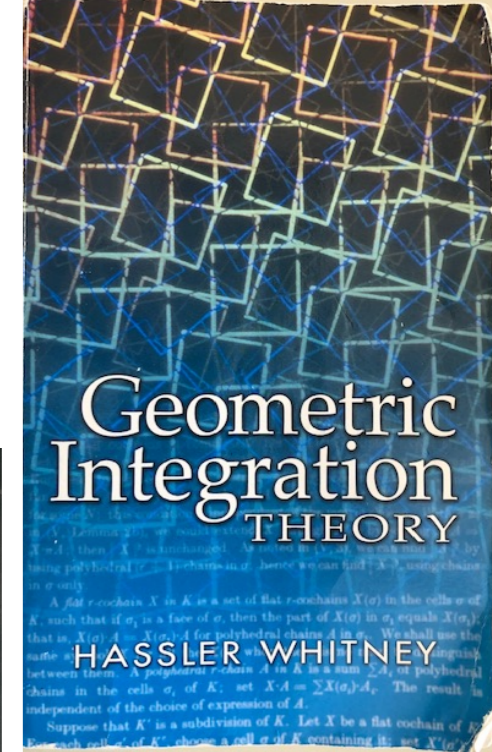
**Simplexwise positive map**

$\partial\mathcal{B}$



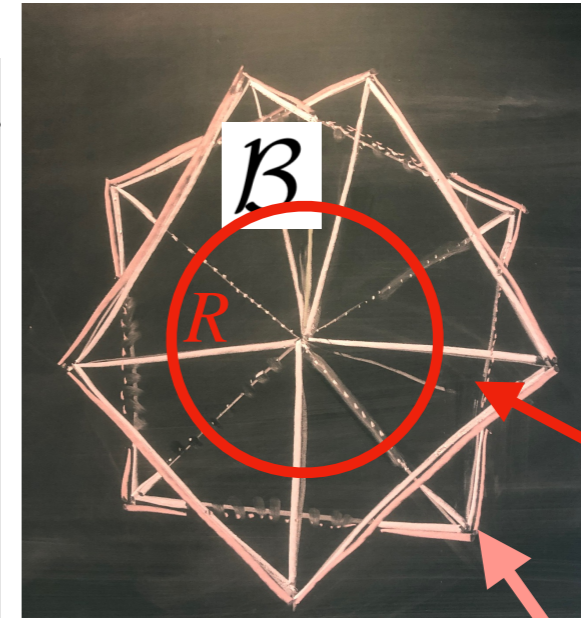
**Oriented pseudo-manifolds**

# Whitney Lemma



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**Simplexwise positive map**

$\partial\mathcal{B}$

**Lemma 2 (Whitney).** Assume that the following conditions are satisfied:

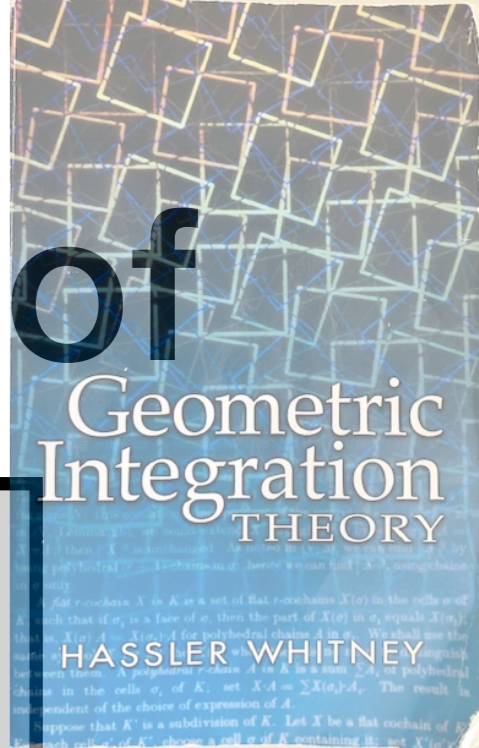
- (C1)  $K$  is an oriented  $m$ -pseudo-manifold with boundary and  $F : |K| \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is a simplexwise positive map.
- (C2)  $R \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  is a connected open set such that  $R \cap F(|\partial K|) = \emptyset$ .
- (C3) There is a  $y \in R \setminus F(|K^{m-1}|)$  such that  $F^{-1}(y)$  is a single point.

Then the restriction of  $F$  to  $F^{-1}(R)$  is a bijection between  $F^{-1}(R)$  and  $R$ .

**C1+C2 => constant number of inverse images in  $R$**



# Whitney Lemma proof



**Lemma 2** (Whitney). *Assume that the following conditions are satisfied:*

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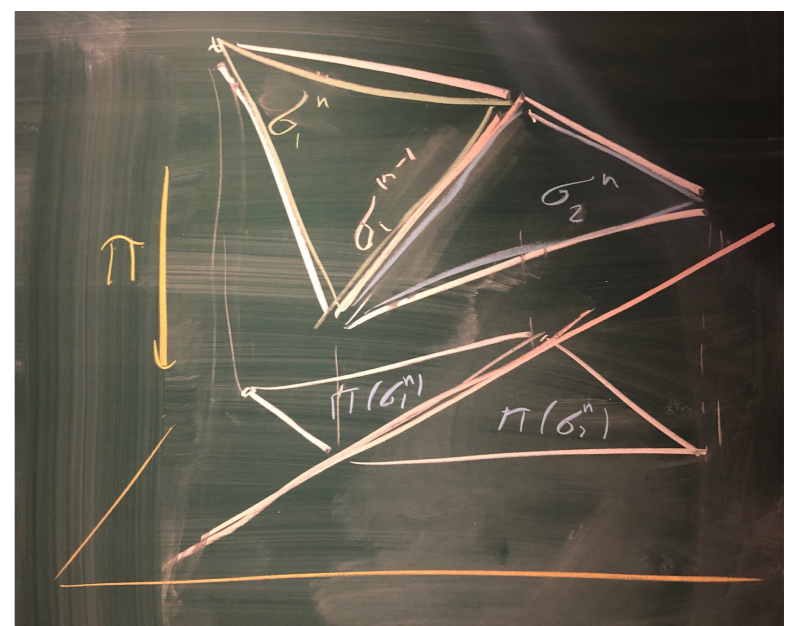
## Whitney's proof in 4 steps:

**1  $\forall i, \sigma_i^{m-1} \notin \partial K, F|_{\text{star } \sigma_i^{m-1}}$  is injective and open**

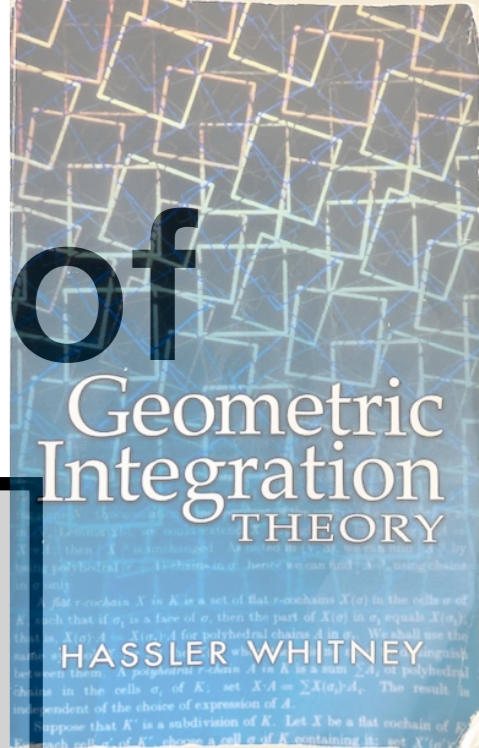
## $F$ Simplexwise positive:

$\Rightarrow$  **if  $\sigma_1^m$  and  $\sigma_2^m$  are the two full dimensional cofaces of  $\sigma_i^{m-1}$**

**$F(\sigma_1^m)$  and  $F(\sigma_2^m)$  are on opposite side of the hyper-plane spanned by  $F(\sigma_i^{m-1})$**



# Whitney Lemma proof



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**Whitney's proof in 4 steps:**

**Degree argument**

**2**  $x, y \in R \setminus F(K^{m-1}) \Rightarrow \#F^{-1}(x) = \#F^{-1}(y)$

$R \setminus F(K^{m-2})$  is pathwise connected

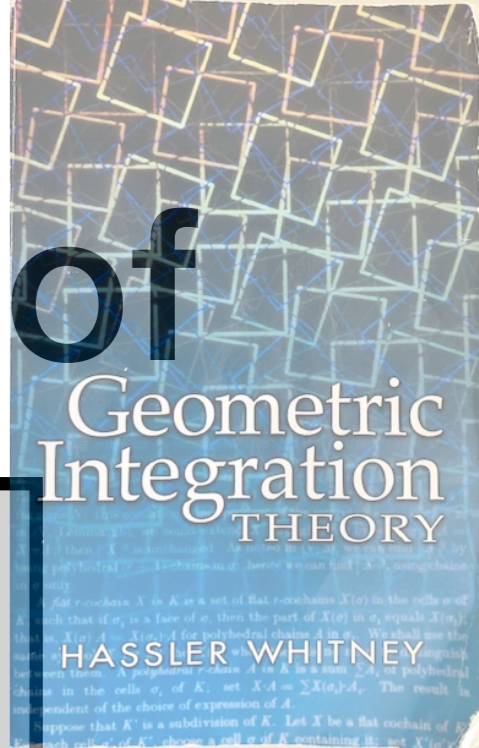
$\gamma$  is a path in  $R \setminus F(K^{m-2})$  from  $x$  to  $y$

consider  $t_0$  such that  $t \mapsto \#F^{-1}\gamma(t)$  changes at  $t_0$





# Whitney Lemma proof



**Lemma 2** (Whitney). *Assume that the following conditions are satisfied:*

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**Whitney's proof in 4 steps:**

Degree argument

C1+C2 => constant number of inverse images in  $R$

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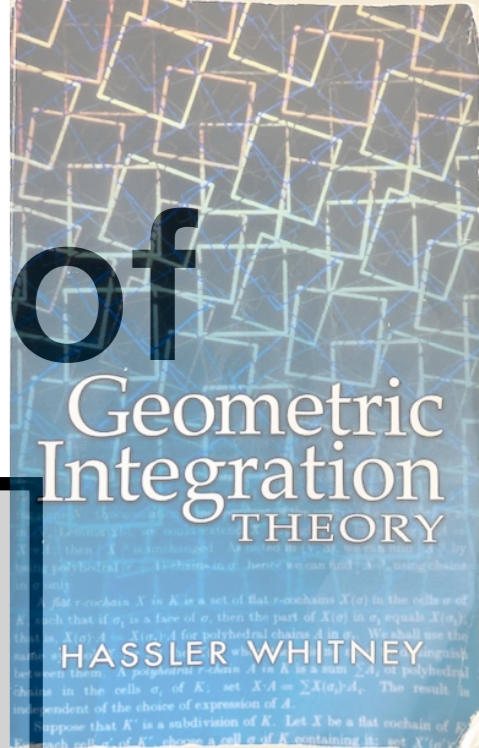


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# Whitney Lemma proof



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## Whitney's proof in 4 steps:

C1+C2 => F is open

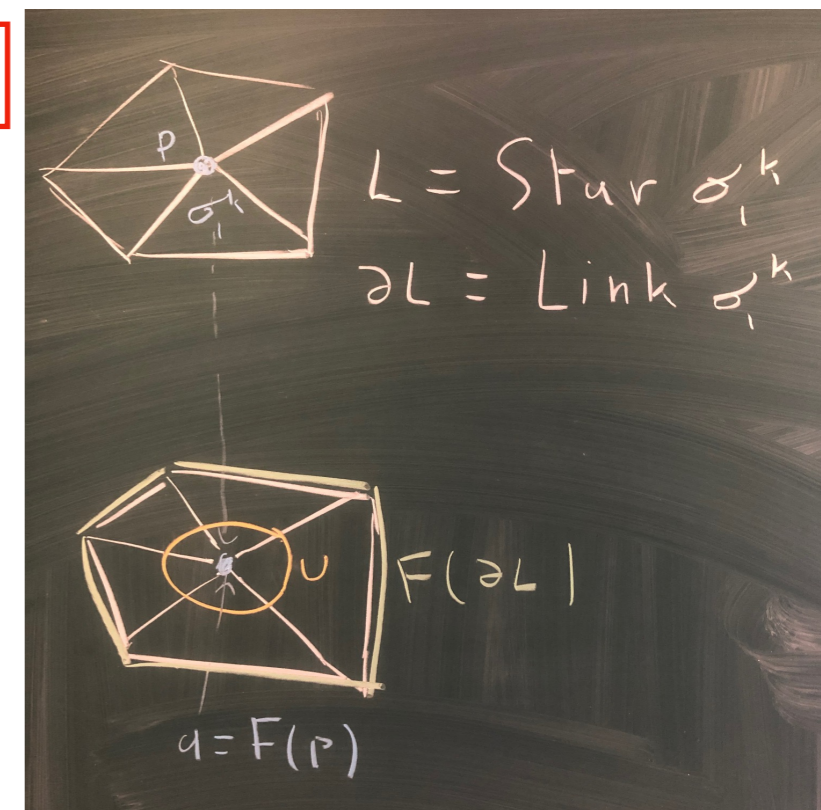
**3**  $\forall k, i, \sigma_i^k \notin \partial K, F(\text{star } \sigma_i^k)$  is open and  $F|_{\text{star } \sigma_i^k}$  is open

**Consider**  $p \in \text{int}(\sigma_i^k)$  and  $U$  a neighborhood of  $q = F(p)$

**Defines:**  $L = \overline{\text{star } \sigma_i^k}$  and apply step (2) to  $L$  :

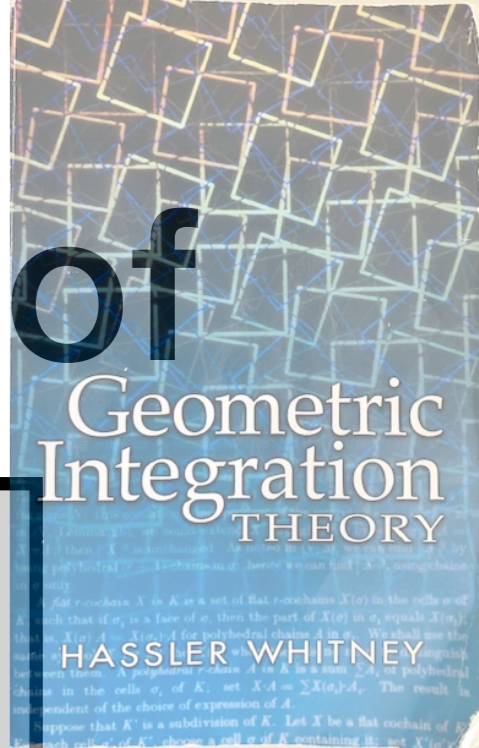
**if**  $U \cap \partial L = \emptyset$  **each point in**  $U \setminus F(L^{m-1})$  **is covered**

**since**  $U \subset \overline{U \setminus F(L^{m-1})}$  **we have**  $U \subset F(L)$





# Whitney Lemma proof



**Lemma 2** (Whitney). *Assume that the following conditions are satisfied:*

(C1)  $K$  is an oriented  $m$ -pseudo-manifold with boundary and  $F : |K| \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is a simplexwise positive map.

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## Whitney's proof in 4 steps:

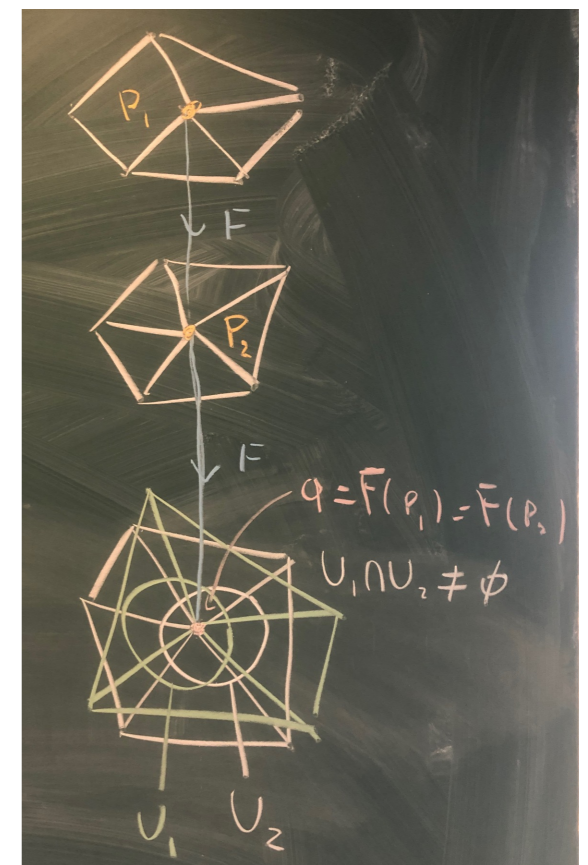
**4**  $\exists x \in R \setminus F(|K^{m-1}|)$ ,  $\#F^{-1}(x) = 1 \Rightarrow F|_{F^{-1}(R)}$  **is injective:**

**Consider**  $p_1 \neq p_2$ ,  $F(p_1) = F(p_2) = q$  **with**  $p_i \in \text{int}(\sigma_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2$

$F$  **is one-to-one on simplices**  $\Rightarrow \text{star } \sigma_1 \cap \text{star } \sigma_2 = \emptyset$

**step (3)**  $\Rightarrow F(\text{star } \sigma_i)$  **covers some open set**  $U_i \ni q$

$U_1 \cap U_2$  **is an open set covered at least twice**



# Whitney Lemma proof

Geometric  
Integration  
THEORY

HASSLER WHITNEY

**Lemma 2** (Whitney). *Assume that the following conditions are satisfied:*

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*Then the restriction of  $F$  to  $F^{-1}(R)$  is a bijection between  $F^{-1}(R)$  and  $R$ .*

## Consequence of Whitney's Theorem:

$F$  is injective and open, and is therefore an homeomorphism on it image



# An alternative to Whitney Lemma: recursion on the dimension

(after some discussions with David Cohen-Steiner)

**Theorem 3.** Let  $d \geq 0$  and  $\mathcal{K}$  be a finite,  $d$ -dimensional simplicial complex. For a piecewise linear map  $\phi : |\mathcal{K}| \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d+1} \setminus \{0\}$  define  $\mathring{\phi} : |\mathcal{K}| \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^d$  as :

$$\mathring{\phi}(x) = \frac{\phi(x)}{\|\phi(x)\|}$$

If  $\mathcal{K}$  and  $\mathring{\phi}$  satisfy:

1. Any simplex  $\tau \in \mathcal{K}$  with  $\dim \tau \leq d - 1$  has at least two  $d$ -dimensional cofaces for  $d \geq 1$ , and  $\mathcal{K}$  has at least two 0-dimensional simplices for  $d = 0$ .
2. For any  $\sigma \in \mathcal{K}_d$ , the restriction of  $\mathring{\phi}$  to  $|\sigma|$  is injective.
3. The restriction of  $\mathring{\phi}$  to

$$\bigcup_{\sigma \in \mathcal{K}_d} \sigma^\circ$$

is injective.

Then  $\mathring{\phi}$  is a homeomorphism between  $|\mathcal{K}|$  and  $\mathbb{S}^d$ .



Unfortunately it is not simpler (formal proof = 7 pages)

# Back to the theorem

**Theorem 4 (Triangulation of submanifolds)** *Let  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^N$  be a connected  $C^2$   $m$ -dimensional submanifold of  $\mathbb{R}^N$  with reach  $\text{rch}(M) > 0$ , and  $\mathcal{P} \subset M$  a finite set of points. Suppose that  $\mathcal{A}$  is an  $m$ -dimensional quasi-manifold simplicial complex whose vertex set  $\mathcal{A}^0$  is identified with  $\mathcal{P}$ . Let  $L, t > 0$  be such that for any  $m$ -simplex  $\sigma \in \mathcal{A}$  one has:*

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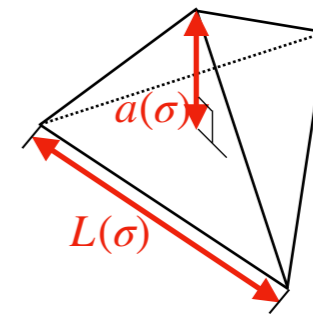
$$\frac{L}{\text{rch}(M)} \leq \min \left( \frac{1}{8}, t \sin \pi/8 \right).$$

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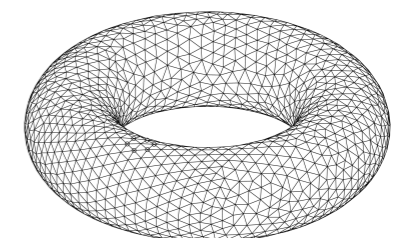
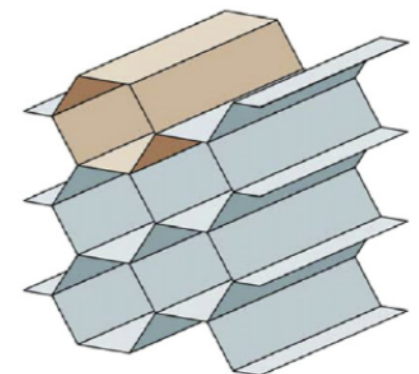
$$\forall p \in \mathcal{P}, \forall \sigma_1, \sigma_2 \in \mathcal{A} \text{ with } |\sigma_1|, |\sigma_2| \subset B(p, 2.8L), \\ \sigma_1 \neq \sigma_2 \Rightarrow \text{pr}_{T_p M}(|\sigma_1|)^\circ \cap \text{pr}_{T_p M}(|\sigma_2|)^\circ = \emptyset.$$

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$$t(\sigma) = \frac{a(\sigma)}{mL(\sigma)}$$



# Invariance of Domain Theorem

(A kind of *inverse function theorem* for *continuous maps*)



**WIKIPEDIA**  
The Free Encyclopedia

**Invariance of domain** is a theorem in [topology](#) about [homeomorphic subsets](#) of [Euclidean space](#)  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . It states:

If  $U$  is an [open subset](#) of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  and  $f: U \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$  is an [injective continuous map](#), then  $V = f(U)$  is open and  $f$  is a [homeomorphism](#) between  $U$  and  $V$ .

The theorem and its proof are due to [L. E. J. Brouwer](#), published in 1912.<sup>[1]</sup> The proof uses tools of [algebraic topology](#), notably the [Brouwer fixed point theorem](#).

[Bro12] L.E.J. Brouwer. Beweis der Invarianz des n-dimensionalen Gebiets. *Mathematische Annalen*, 71:305–313, 1912. [9](#)

# General condition for homeomorphism

**Theorem 3** (Triangulation of manifolds). *Let  $H$  be a continuous mapping from a (non-empty)  $m$ -dimensional finite simplicial complex  $\mathcal{A}$ , to a connected  $m$ -manifold without boundary  $M$ .*

*If  $H$  is injective and  $\mathcal{A}$  is a manifold, then  $H$  is a homeomorphism.*

*Proof* By the invariance of domain theorem [Bro12], we have that  $H$  is open. Being injective, continuous and open,  $H$  is a homeomorphism on its image. Since  $\mathcal{A}$  is finite, it is compact and  $H(|\mathcal{A}|)$  is the image of an open and compact set by an open and continuous map and is therefore open and compact. Since  $M$  is connected its only open and closed non-empty subset is  $M$  itself, therefore  $H(|\mathcal{A}|) = M$ .  $\square$



# Proof outline

First some geometry:

« Simplicies are not too flat ( $t$ ) and small ( $L$ ) with respect to reach of  $M$  »

Then:

$$\frac{L}{\text{rch}(M)} \leq \min \left( \frac{1}{8}, t \sin \pi/8 \right)$$

**Lemma 8 (Tangent Balls)** For any  $p \in M$ , any open ball  $B(c, r)$  that is tangent to  $M$  at  $p$  and whose radius  $r$  satisfies  $r \leq \text{rch}(M)$  does not intersect  $M$ .

**Lemma 9 (Simplex-tangent space angle bounds)** Under Hypothesis [7](#), if  $\sigma \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $p$  is a vertex of  $\sigma$ , then

$$\sin \angle(\sigma, T_p M) \leq \frac{L}{t \text{rch}(M)}.$$

**Lemma 10 (Variation of tangent space)** Under Hypothesis [7](#), if  $p, q \in M$ , then

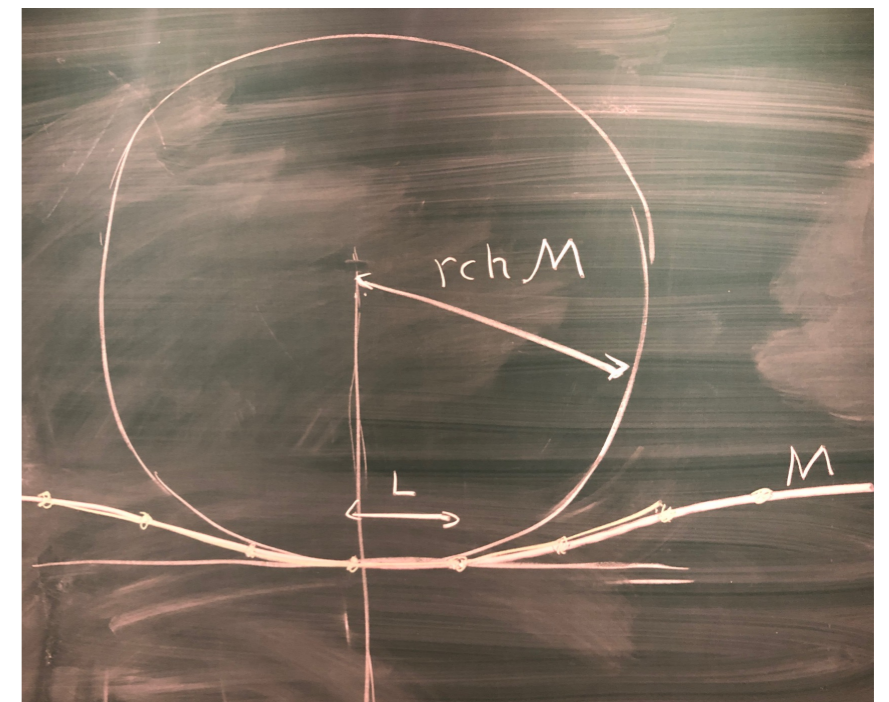
$$\sin \frac{\angle(T_p M, T_q M)}{2} \leq \frac{\|p - q\|}{2 \text{rch}(M)}.$$

**Lemma 11 (Distance to tangent space)** Under Hypothesis [7](#), if  $p, q \in M$ , then

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**Lemma 12 (Hausdorff distance between  $M$  and  $|\mathcal{A}|$ )** Under Hypothesis [7](#), if  $x \in |\mathcal{A}|$ , then

$$\|\text{pr}_M(x) - x\| < \frac{2L^2}{\text{rch}(M)}.$$



# Proof outline

**Lemma 2** (Whitney). Assume that the following conditions are satisfied:

(C1)  $K$  is an oriented  $m$ -pseudo-manifold with boundary and  $F : |K| \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  is a simplexwise positive map.

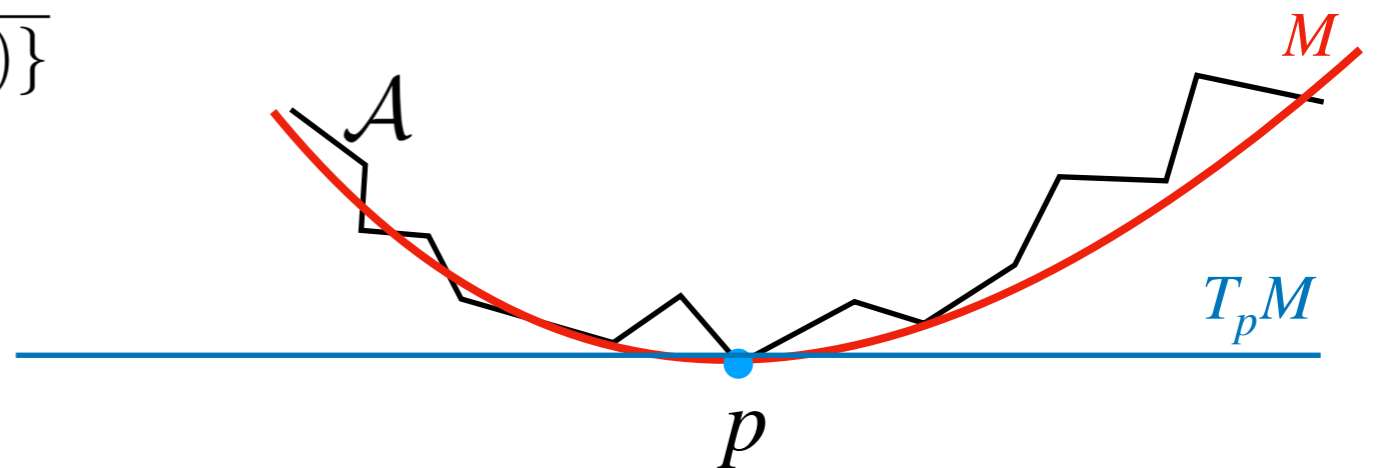
(C2)  $R \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  is a connected open set such that  $R \cap F(|\partial K|) = \emptyset$ .

(C3) There is a  $y \in R \setminus F(|K^{m-1}|)$  such that  $F^{-1}(y)$  is a single point.

Then the restriction of  $F$  to  $F^{-1}(R)$  is a bijection between  $F^{-1}(R)$  and  $R$ .

1) Whitney Lemma applies locally to the projection on a local tangent plane

$$\mathcal{A}_{p,\rho} = \overline{\{\sigma \in \mathcal{A} \mid \dim(\sigma) = m, \sigma \subset B(p,\rho)\}}$$



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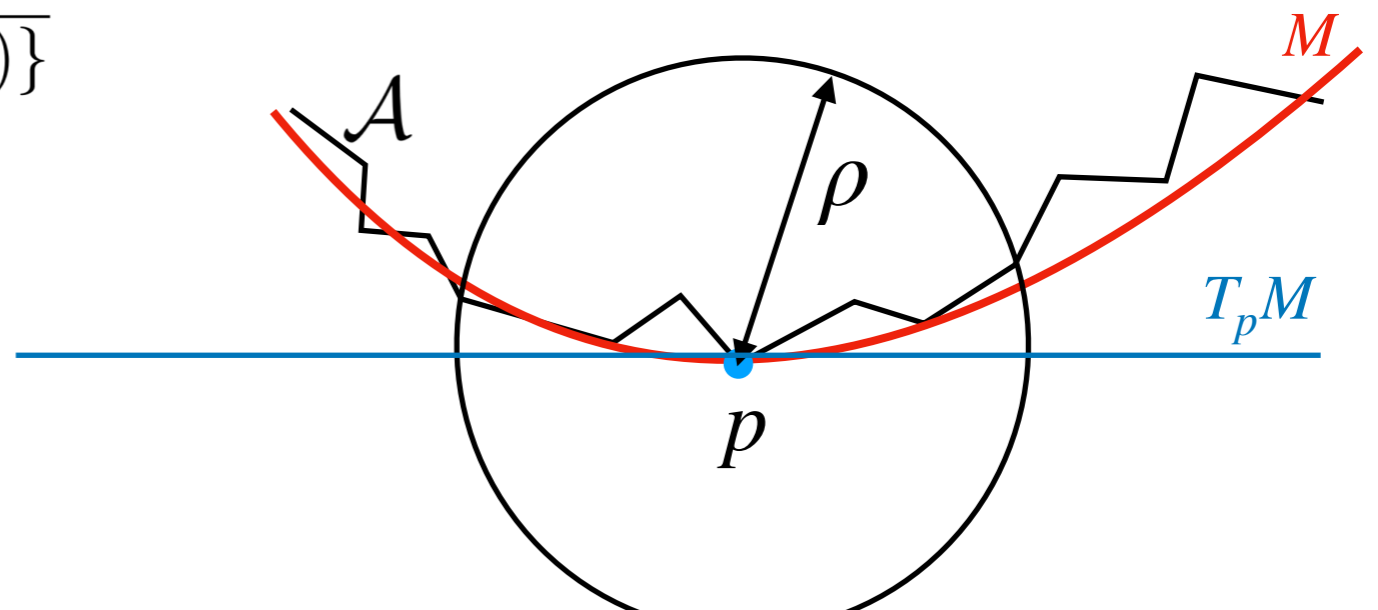
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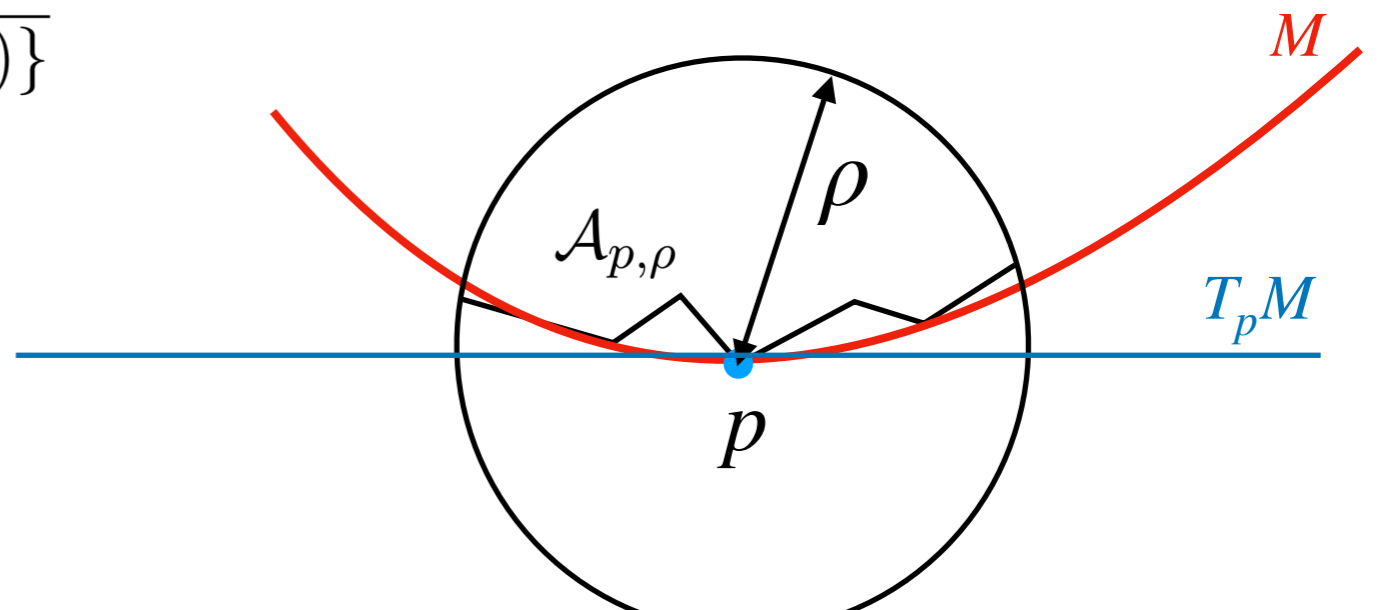
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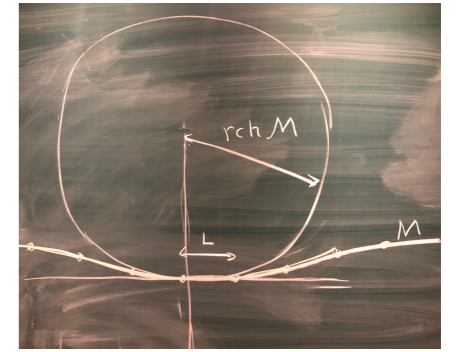
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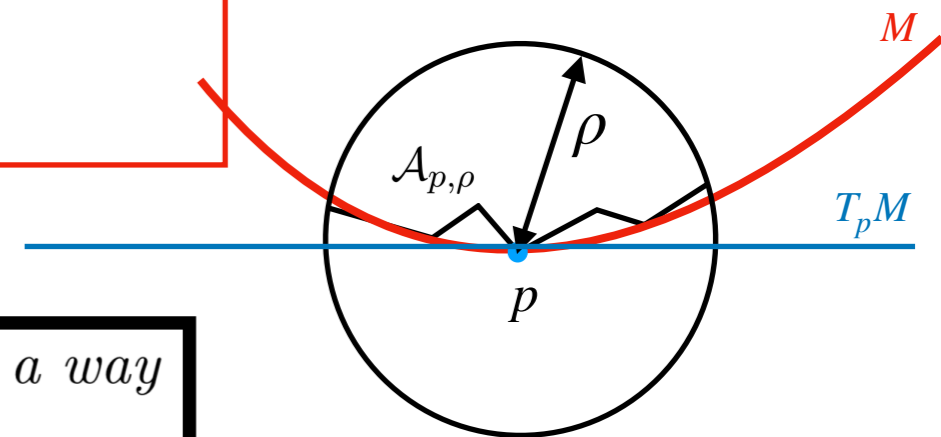
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$$\mathcal{A}_{p,\rho} = \overline{\{\sigma \in \mathcal{A} \mid \dim(\sigma) = m, \sigma \subset B(p, \rho)\}}$$

**Claim 25** The  $m$ -simplices of  $\mathcal{A}_{p,2.8L}$  can be oriented in such a way that:

- (1)  $\mathcal{A}_{p,2.8L}$  is an oriented pseudo-manifold with boundary,
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**C1 Condition of Whitney's Lemma**



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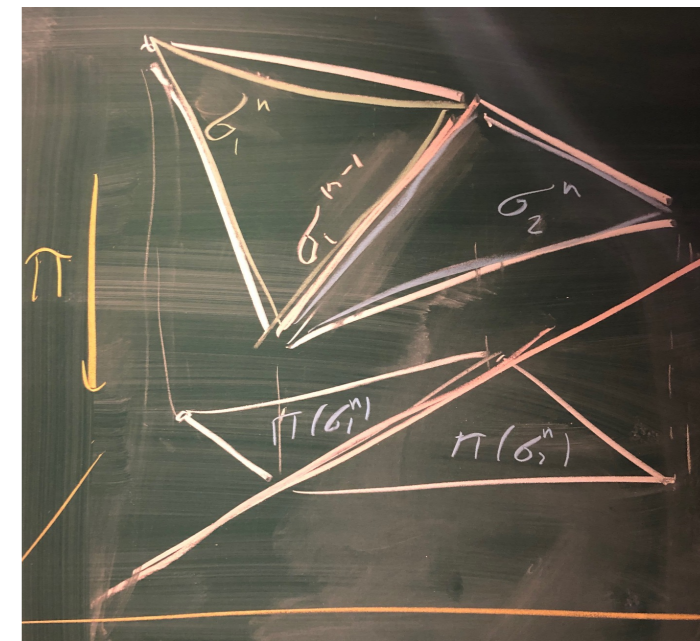
$$\sigma_1 \neq \sigma_2 \Rightarrow \text{pr}_{T_p M}(|\sigma_1|)^\circ \cap \text{pr}_{T_p M}(|\sigma_2|)^\circ = \emptyset.$$

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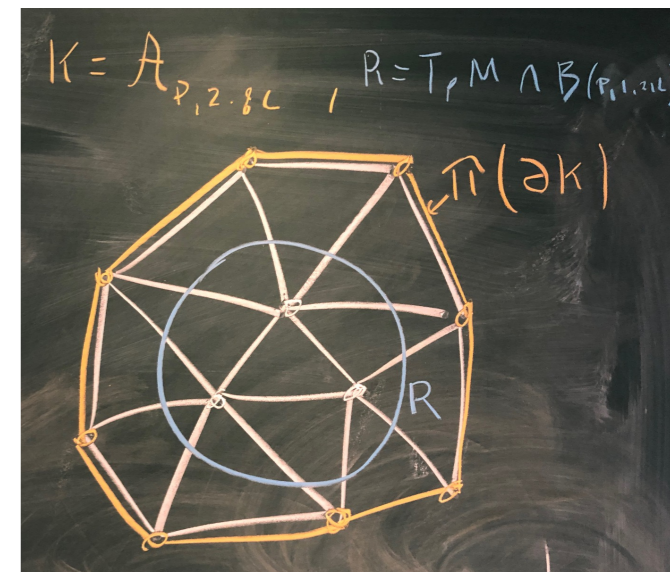
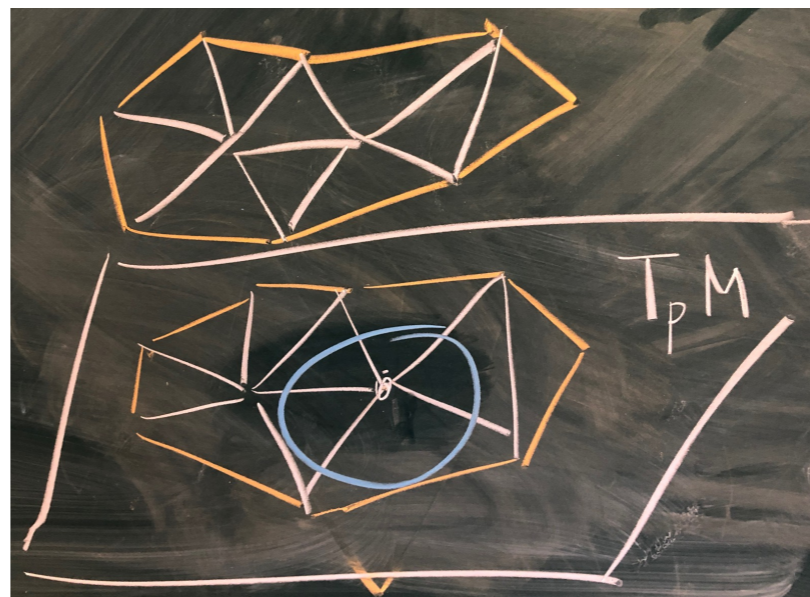
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$$\hat{\mathbf{R}}_p = T_p M \cap B(p, 1.21L)$$

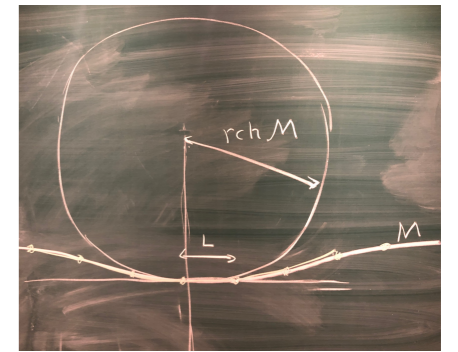
$$\hat{\mathbf{R}}_p \cap F_p(|\partial \mathcal{A}_{p, 2.8L}|) = \emptyset$$

**C2 Condition of Whitney's Lemma**

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is a manifold



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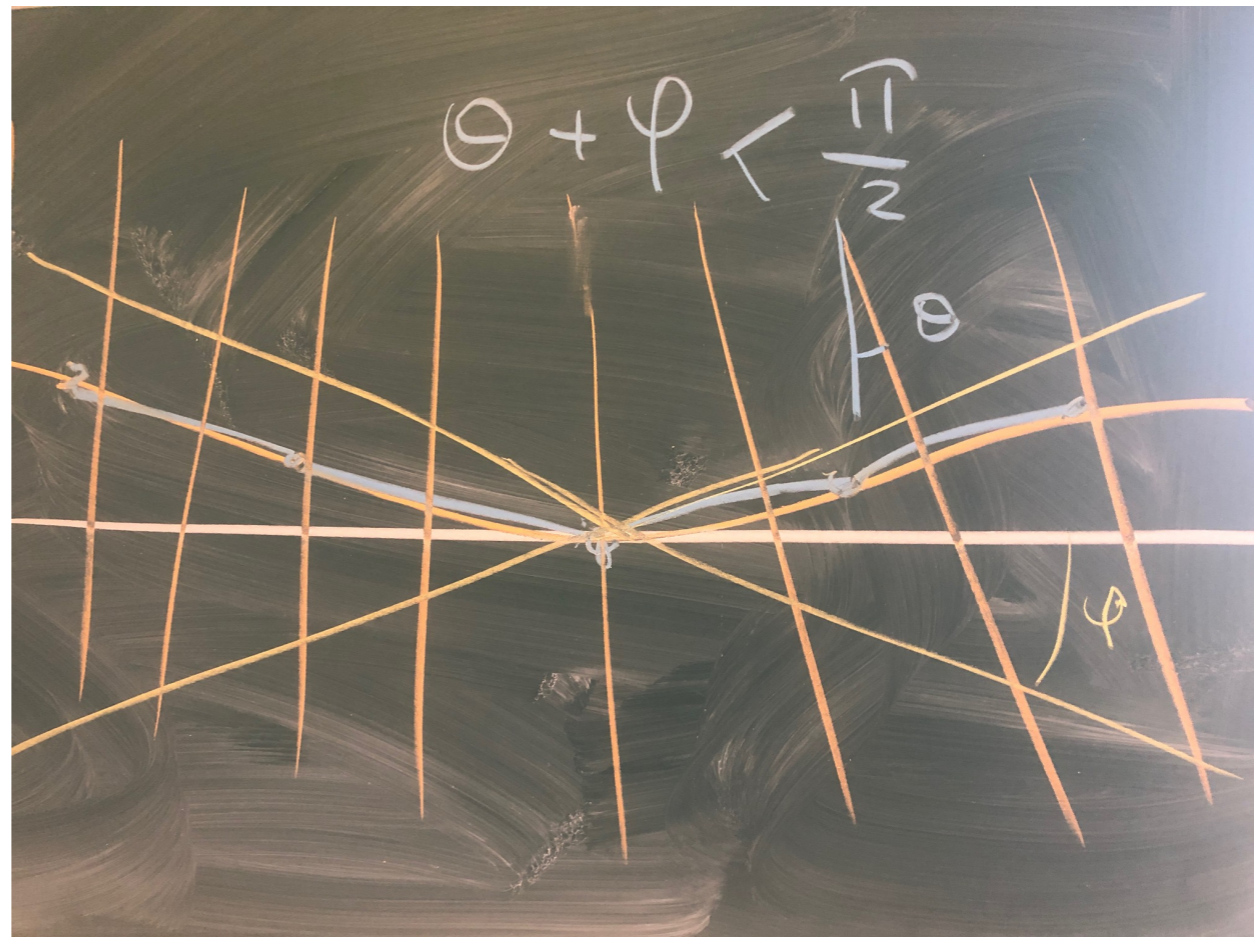
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# Proof outline

By angles argument the projection on the manifold is locally injective.



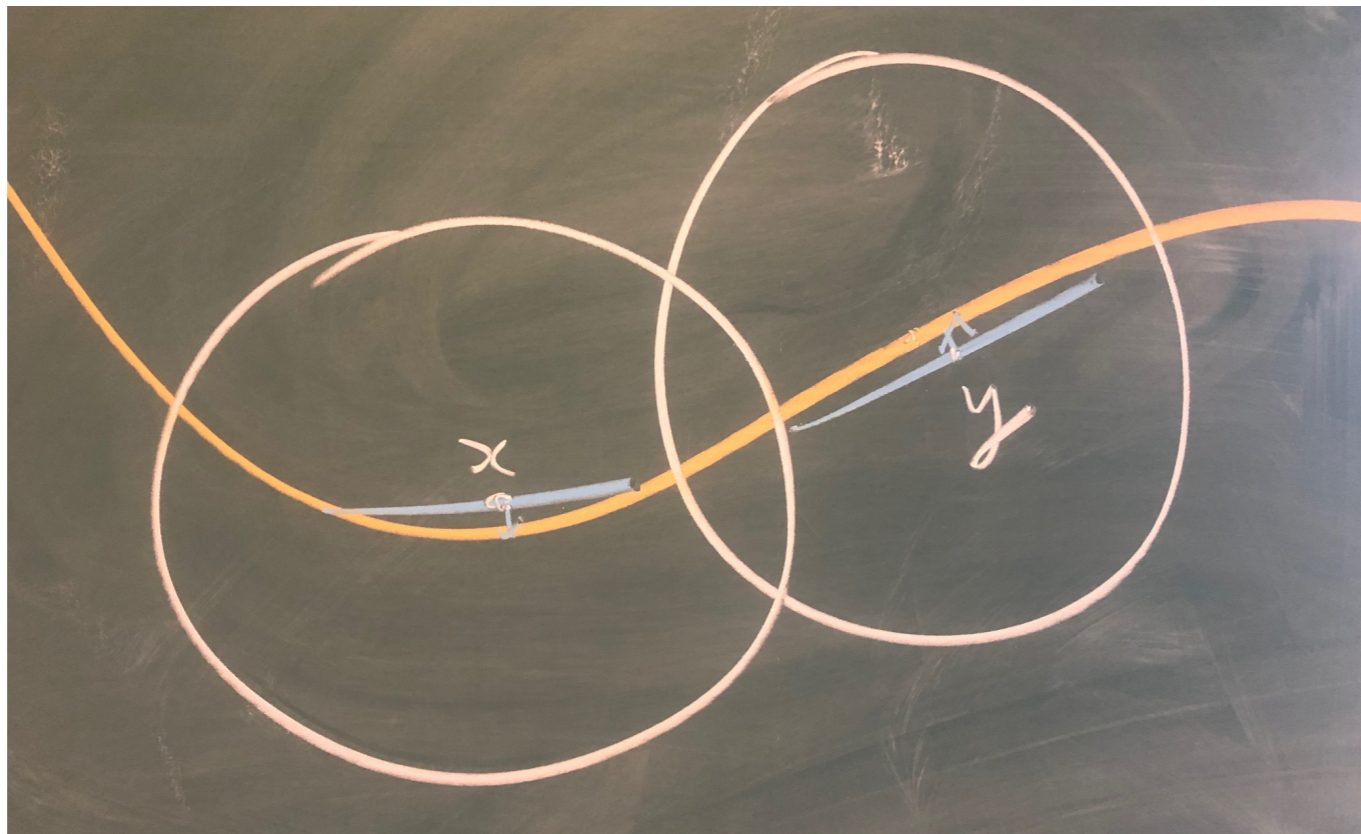


# Proof outline

Since:  $x \in \mathcal{A} \Rightarrow \|x - pr_M(x)\| < \frac{L}{4}$

$$\|x - y\| > \frac{L}{2} \Rightarrow pr_M(x) \neq pr_M(y)$$

$pr_M|_{\mathcal{A}}$  is globally injective





**Thank you !**

