

# Entangled Nets from Surface Drawings

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# Overview

## Preliminaries

Theory of Knotted Graphs and Applications

Minimal Surfaces

Orbifolds

## General Idea

Decorating the Surface

## Enumerating Nets by Complexity

Mapping Class Group

## Conclusion

Final Take-Home Message

# Knot Theory and Chemical Structures in $\mathbb{R}^3$

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- ▶ Is there a meaningful and simple way to combine the above approaches?

Preliminaries

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General Idea

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Enumerating Nets by Complexity

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Preliminaries

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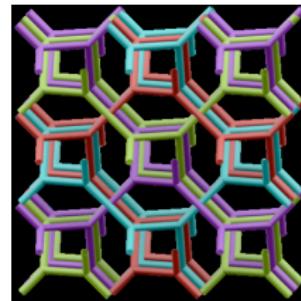
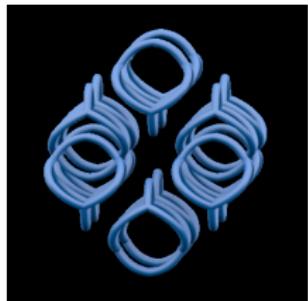
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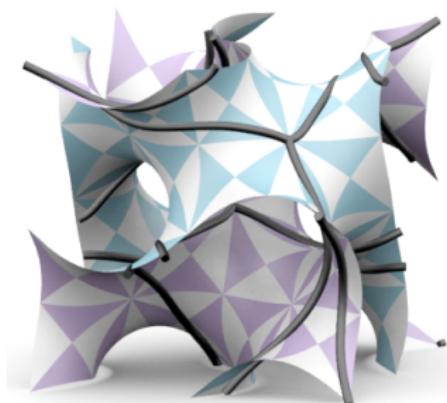
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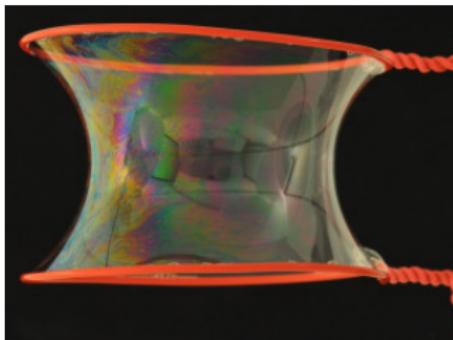


Figure: Minimal surfaces as soap films between wires (Paul Nylander)

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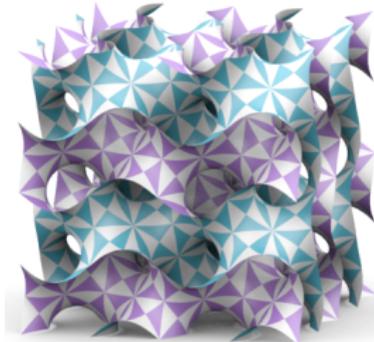
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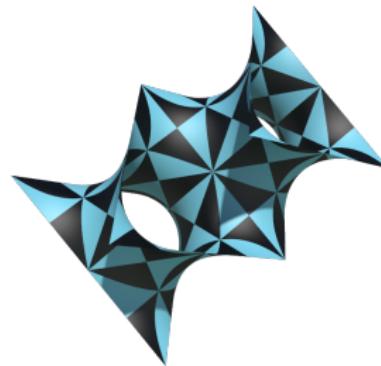
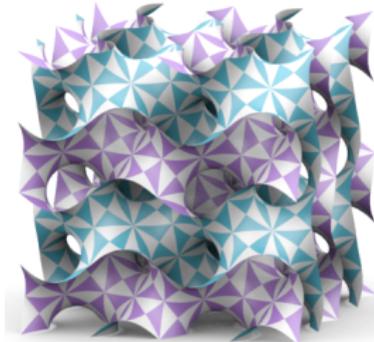
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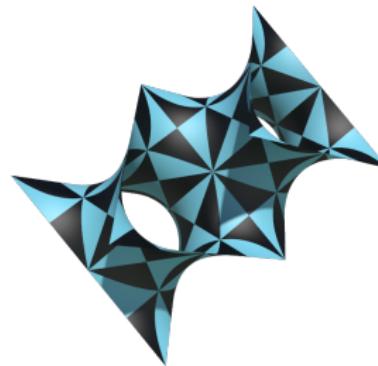
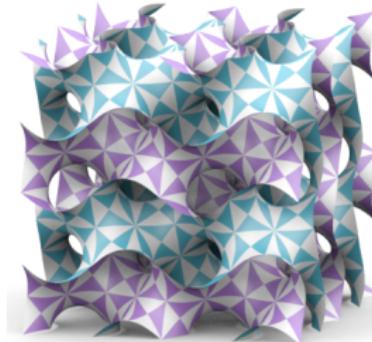
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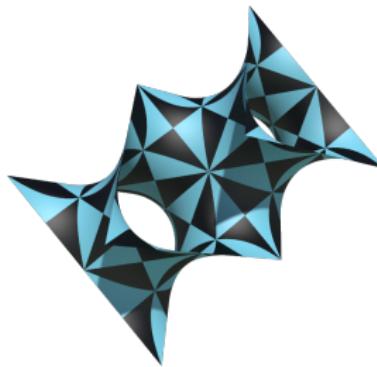
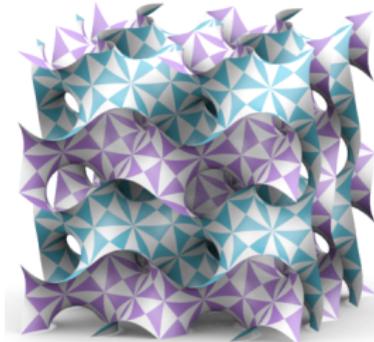
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- ▶ The translations are a result of more refined symmetries.
- ▶ These symmetries yield the structure of a *hyperbolic orbifold*.

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- ▶ Many of these structures exhibit symmetries.
- ▶ Minimal surfaces are close to surfaces that are ubiquitous in nature.
- ▶ Prominent (triply periodic) minimal surfaces exhibit a high degree of symmetry
- ▶ They are covered by the hyperbolic plane  $\mathbb{H}^2$



# Orbifolds - Quick and Dirty



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## Definition - Developable Orbifold

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Let  $X$  be a paracompact Hausdorff space and  $G$  Lie group with a smooth, effective and almost free action  $G \curvearrowright X$ . Then the set of data associated with the quotient map  $\pi : X \rightarrow X/G$  is an orbifold.

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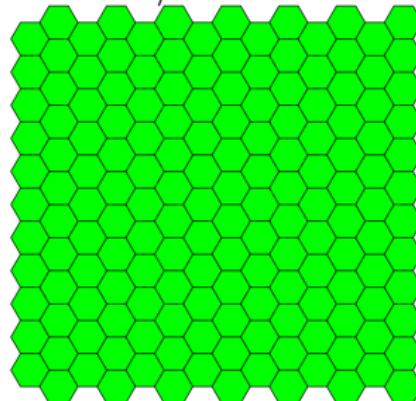
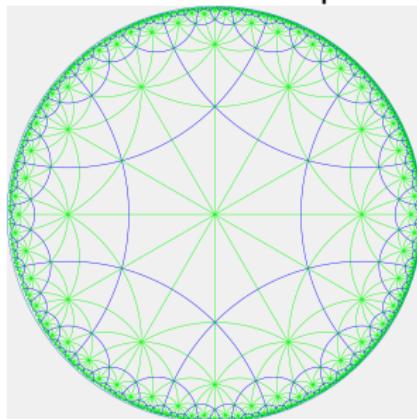
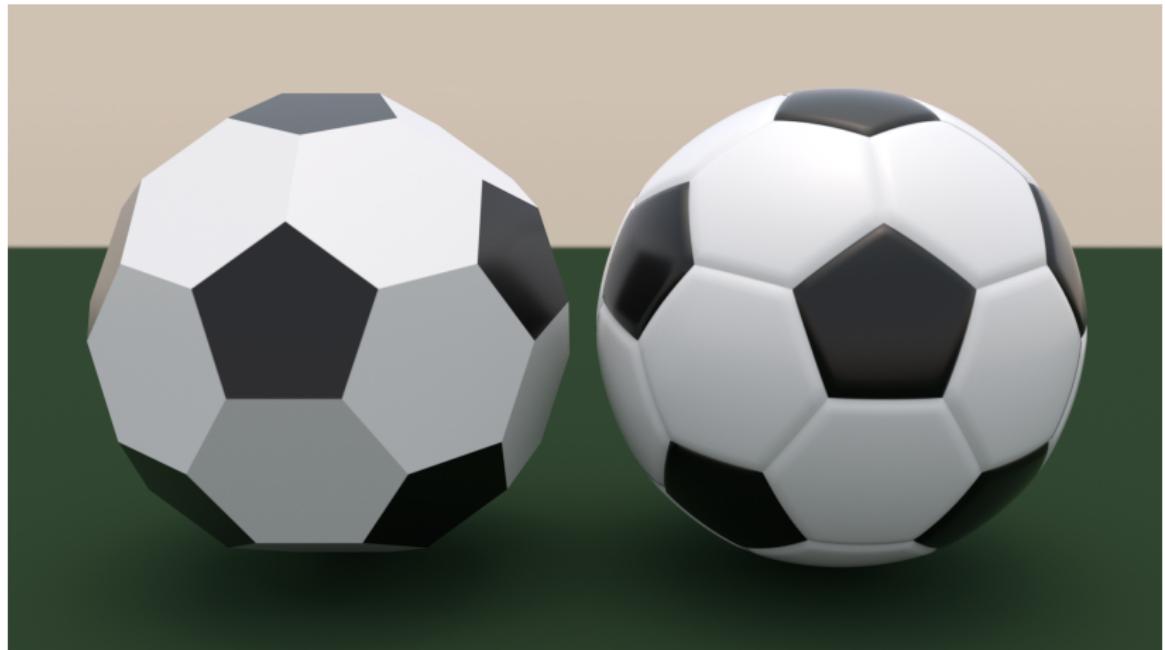
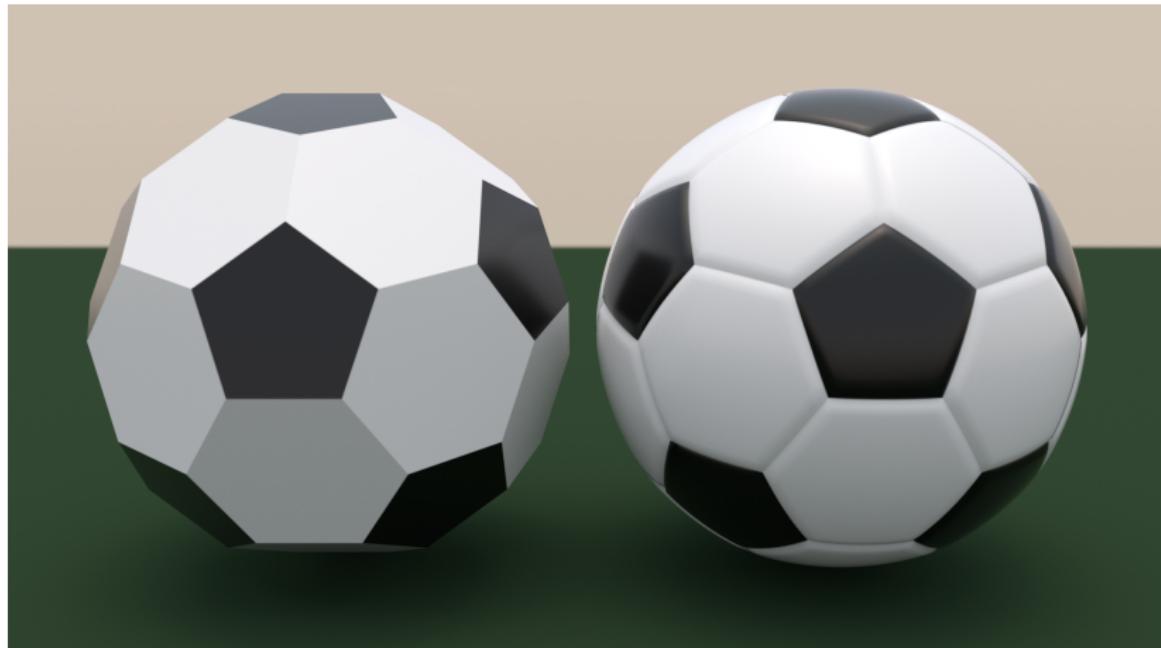


Figure: Euclidean and Hyperbolic 2D Developable Orbifolds

# Examples



## Examples



★532 - Picture from Wikipedia



Preliminaries

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Orbifolds

General Idea

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Enumerating Nets by Complexity

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- ▶ A hyperbolic surface will only have hyperbolic orbifolds 'sitting inside it'
- ▶ Symmetries for all surfaces are more or less what we know from everyday life

Preliminaries

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General Idea

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Enumerating Nets by Complexity

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Decorating the Surface

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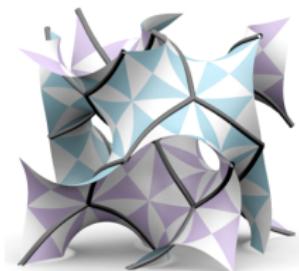
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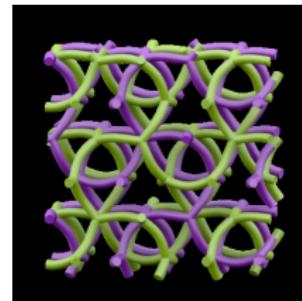
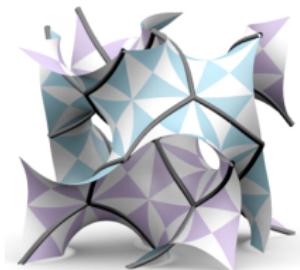
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Preliminaries

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- ▶ The symmetries of the surface embeddings have corresponding symmetries of the 3D embedding.
- ▶ Only works for tame embeddings of graphs in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Preliminaries

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Mapping Class Group

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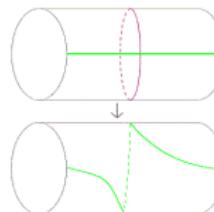
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- ▶ The MCG is the set of equivalence classes of positively oriented diffeomorphisms of the surface, identifying those that can be connected by a path (through diffeomorphisms).
- ▶ Prime example: Dehn twist of green curve around red curve.



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→ computational group theory and algebra.

# How does it work? - Mathematical Part

- ▶ The Dehn-Nielsen-Baer Theorem asserts that there is a natural isomorphism between  $\text{Aut}(\pi_1(S))$  and  $\text{Mod}^\pm(S)$  for surfaces  $S$ .

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- ▶ Implicit here is the description of Teichmüller space as equivalence classes of tilings, mod base 'point pushes' and hyperbolic isometries.

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Mapping Class Group

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- ▶ Orbifold group elements can be treated as closed curves → study the MCG of orbifolds by its action on simple closed curves.

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Mapping Class Group

# Take-Home Message III

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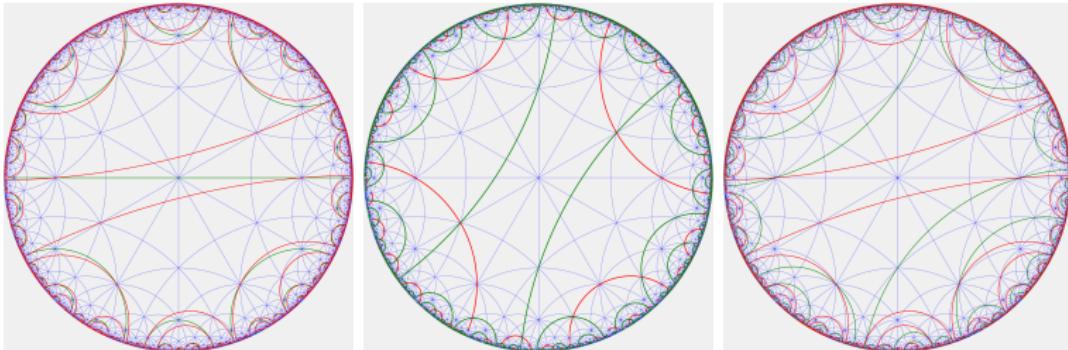
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- ▶ Orbifolds are subtle, but even complicated things like the study of MCGs can be made to work for them.

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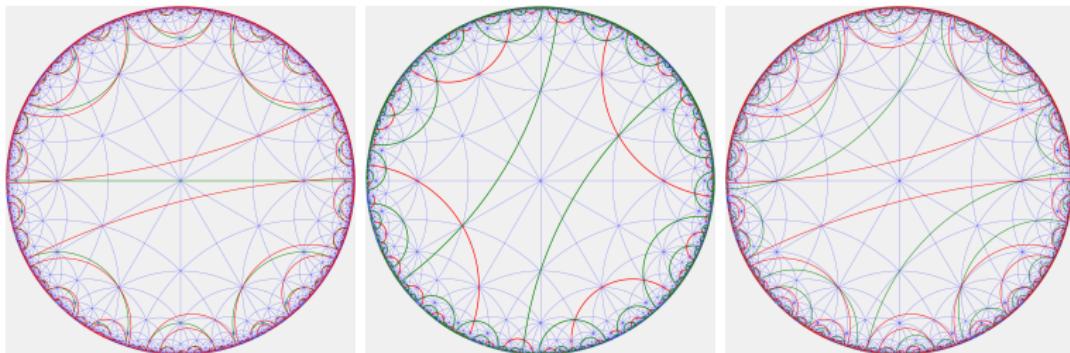
- ▶ The mapping class group generates different decorations of a surface or orbifold starting from a given one.
- ▶ The MCG is very complicated in general, but has a nice set of generators.
- ▶ Orbifolds are subtle, but even complicated things like the study of MCGs can be made to work for them.
- ▶ Algebra is easier than geometry.

# Examples of different tilings of the hyperbolic plane with the same combinatorial structure

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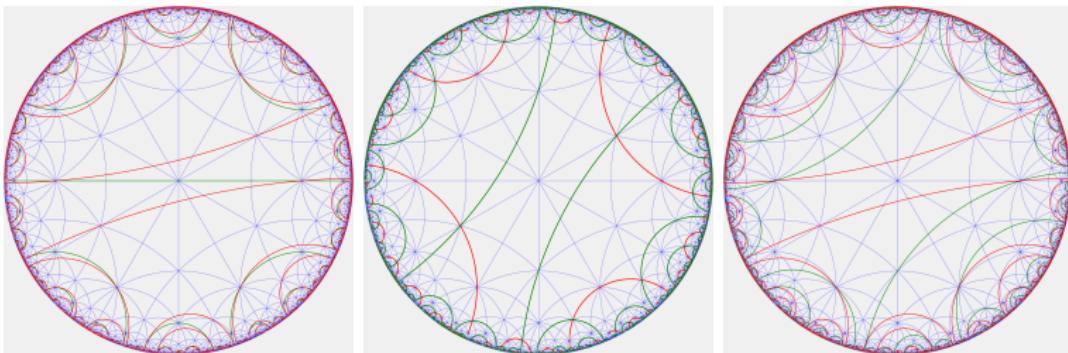


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**Figure:** Hyperbolic Tilings that are related by elements of the mapping class group. The blue lines are used in the construction, the tiling is defined by only the green and red lines.

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**Figure:** Hyperbolic Tilings that are related by elements of the mapping class group. The blue lines are used in the construction, the tiling is defined by only the green and red lines.

- ▶ Note that classical tiling theory does not treat these tilings because the tiles are unbounded.

Preliminaries

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General Idea

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Enumerating Nets by Complexity

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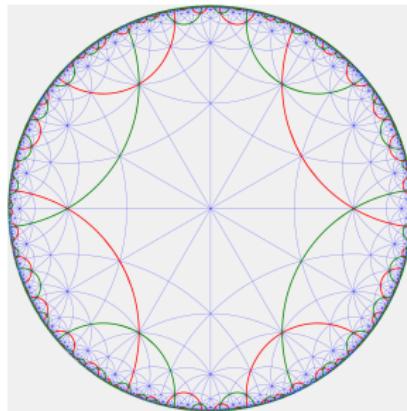
Conclusion

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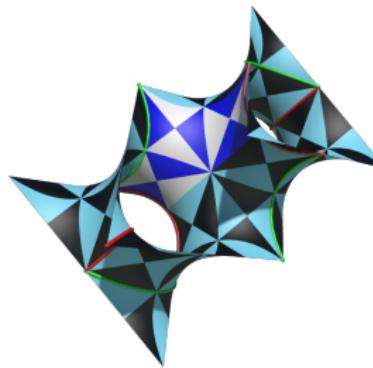
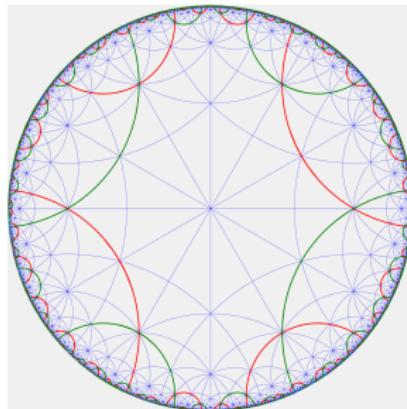
Mapping Class Group

# Example of a Tiling of the Hyperbolic Plane and the Resulting Net

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**Figure:** Hyperbolic Tiling and the corresponding drawing on the diamond surface in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

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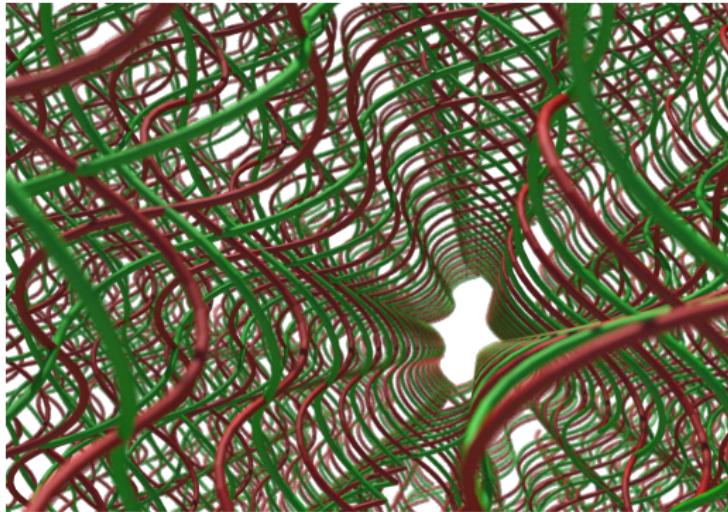


Figure: The corresponding net in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , representing a molecular structure grown on the diamond surface with two distinct strands.

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Final Take-Home Message

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- ▶ By using nice surfaces, one can study structures by examining them on the surface.
- ▶ Symmetric patterns can be studied using the universal covering space, the hyperbolic plane.
- ▶ Because two-dimensions are nice, all (sufficiently simple) patterns with a given combinatorial structure can be produced from a single such pattern.
- ▶ The resulting structures have a natural ordering by complexity.
- ▶ Potential uses include systematically checking structures for certain physical properties, for possible synthetic materials.

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# Thank you for your Attention

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Work done in collaboration with  
Myfanwy Evans, TUB; Vanessa Robins and Stephen Hyde, ANU

