If we consider a straight line on a flat surface, we can superimpose a piece of scotch tape on it without twisting it: it goes "straight ahead".



Generally speaking, a piece of scotch tape can only be superimposed without constraint on a straight line (whatever the surface). On the sphere for example, we find the alignment without constraint of the tape if it is superimposed on a great circle. The great circle goes well "straight".



On the other hand, if one tries to superimpose a piece of scotch tape on another figure, such as a small circle (photo below), one finds that one is forced to twist the tape: it cannot go "straight" and follow a small circle.

