Sky tesselation

Deyan P. Mihaylov*

I. ICOSAHEDRON

The vertices of an icosahedron centered at the origin and with circumradius 1 are:

$$V_1 = (0, 0, 1) \tag{1a}$$

$$V_2 = (0, 0, -1) \tag{1b}$$

$$V_3 = \left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right) \tag{1c}$$

$$V_4 = \left(-\frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}, 0, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right) \tag{1d}$$

$$V_5 = \left(-\frac{5+\sqrt{5}}{10}, \sqrt{\frac{5-\sqrt{5}}{10}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right) \tag{1e}$$

$$V_6 = \left(-\frac{5+\sqrt{5}}{10}, -\sqrt{\frac{5-\sqrt{5}}{10}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right) \tag{1f}$$

$$V_7 = \left(\frac{5+\sqrt{5}}{10}, \sqrt{\frac{5-\sqrt{5}}{10}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right) \tag{1g}$$

$$V_8 = \left(\frac{5+\sqrt{5}}{10}, -\sqrt{\frac{5-\sqrt{5}}{10}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right) \tag{1h}$$

$$V_9 = \left(\frac{5 - \sqrt{5}}{10}, \sqrt{\frac{5 + \sqrt{5}}{10}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right) \tag{1i}$$

$$V_{10} = \left(\frac{5 - \sqrt{5}}{10}, -\sqrt{\frac{5 + \sqrt{5}}{10}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right) \tag{1j}$$

$$V_{11} = \left(-\frac{5 - \sqrt{5}}{10}, \sqrt{\frac{5 + \sqrt{5}}{10}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right)$$
 (1k)

$$V_{12} = \left(-\frac{5-\sqrt{5}}{10}, -\sqrt{\frac{5+\sqrt{5}}{10}}, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}\right) \tag{11}$$

II. TASKS

itemize

If we have a unit sphere centered on the origin O and 2 points $P_{1,2}=(x_{1,2},y_{1,2},z_{1,2})$ on it, find the Cartesian equation of the great circle which passes through both of these points.

We have a unit sphere centered on the origin O and 2 points $P_{1,2} = (x_{1,2}, y_{1,2}, z_{1,2})$ on it. Take a point M which lies on the line P_1P_2 and is inside the sphere, such that

$$\frac{P_1M}{MP_2} = \frac{a}{b}, a, b \in \mathbb{R}. \tag{2}$$

Find the coordinates of the point M in terms of the coordinates of P_1 and P_2 , a, and b.

If the ray \overrightarrow{OM} intersects the sphere at point Q, find the coordinates of Q.

Take an equilateral triangle ABC, divide it in smaller equilateral triangles by dividing its sides into n=2,3,4,... smaller segments.

Take our icosahedron from before. For n=2, on each face, construct smaller n^2 smaller equilateral triangles. Find the projections of the vertices triangles onto the unit sphere. Record the vertices and faces of the new polyhedron in a file. Repeat for n>2.

Find the volume factor as a function of n:

$$F_V(n) = \frac{V_n}{4\pi/3}$$

find the area factor as a function of n:

$$F_A(n) = \frac{A_n}{4\pi}$$

^{*} deyan@aei.mpg.de