## Algebraic Topology 2: Smooth Manifolds

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August 16, 2019

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The key point of this class will be a discussion of *smooth structures*. As you may recall, a sensational result of Milnor's exhibited exotic spheres with smooth structures – i.e., a differentiable manifold M which is homeomorphic but not diffeomorphic to a sphere.

Summary of this result: Look at bundles  $S^3 \to X \to S^4$ , then one can construct some  $X \cong S^7 \in \mathbf{Top}$  but  $X \ncong S^7 \in \mathbf{Diff}^{\infty}$ . There are in fact 7 distinct choices for X.

It is not known if there are exotic smooth structures on  $S^4$ . The Smooth Poincare' conjecture is that these do not exist; this is believed to be false.

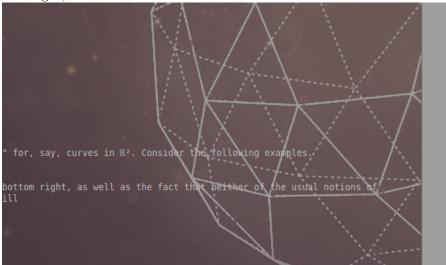
The other key point of this course is to show that  $X \in \mathbf{Diff}^{\infty} \implies X \hookrightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  for some n, and is in fact a topological subspace.

A short list of words/topics we hope to describe:

- Differentiable manifolds
- Local charts
- Submanifolds
- Projective spaces
- Lie groups
- Tangent spaces
- Vector fields
- Cotangent spaces
- Differentials of smooth mapsG
- Differential forms
- de Rham's theorem

We'd like a notion of "convergence" for, say, curves in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Consider the following examples.

Note the problematic point on the bottom right, as well as the fact that neither of the usual notions of



 $pointwise \ or \ uniform \ convergence \ will$