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parts of a ball

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Entry type	Definition
Classification	msc 51M05
Synonym	parts of ball
Synonym	parts of sphere
Related topic	CircularSegment
Defines	spherical segment
Defines	spherical frustum
Defines	spherical cap
Defines	spherical calotte
Defines	spherical sector

Let us consider in \mathbb{R}^3 a ball of radius r and the sphere bounding the ball.

- Two parallel planes intersecting the ball separate between them from the ball a *spherical segment*, which can also be called a *spherical frustum* (see the frustum). The curved surface of the spherical segment is the *spherical zone*.
- In the special case that one of the planes is a tangent plane of the sphere, the spherical segment is a *spherical cap* and the spherical zone is a *spherical calotte*.
- The lateral surface of a circular cone with its apex in the <http://planetmath.org/Spherecent> of the ball divides the ball into two *spherical sectors*.

The distance h of the two planes intersecting the ball be is called the *height*.

The volume of the spherical cap is obtained from

$$V = \pi h^2 \left(r - \frac{h}{3} \right)$$

and the area of the corresponding spherical calotte and also a spherical zone from

$$A = 2\pi r h.$$

The volume of a spherical segment can be got as the difference of the volumes of two spherical caps.

The volume of a spherical sector may be calculated from

$$V = \frac{2}{3}\pi r^2 h,$$

where h is the height of the spherical cap of the spherical sector.