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sphere theorem

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Owner juanman (12619)

Last modified by juanman (12619)

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Author juanman (12619)

Entry type Theorem Classification msc 57M35 Related topic 3Manifolds **Theorem 1** (sphere theorem). If M is a differentiable orientable 3-manifold such that $\pi_2(M)$ is not trivial, then there exists an embedding $S^2 \to M$ such that its image homotopy class is not equal to zero.

This theorem was established and proved by C. Papakyriakopoulos in 1957.