

# Orientational order and vesicle shape

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**Abstract.** — In a membrane with in plane orientational order, the topology determines the total strength of the disclinations and thus controls the total elastic energy. Making use of this remark we discuss the relative stability of spherical vesicles, hollow cylindrical tubules (without caps), disks and tori composed of smectic-C, hexatic or “*n*-atic” membranes.