

By definition, the stereographic project.  
is a bijection

$$f: S^2 \setminus \{N\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

$(x,y,z)$

$(u,v)$

Not  
iso.

conformal

## § 1. Formula for Stereographic Proj.

$$f: S^2 \setminus \{N\} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$$

$(x,y,z)$

S.t.  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$   $\longrightarrow (u,v) \stackrel{?}{=} (u(x,y,z), v(x,y,z))$

North Pole:  $z=1$   $\nwarrow$  being  $S^2$

$z \neq 1$  Not being  $S^2$

$\updownarrow$

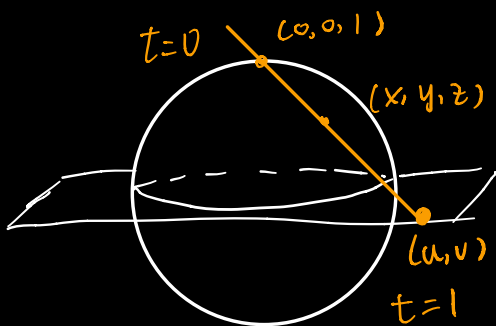
$t \neq 0$

Since  $f$  is bijection,  $\exists f^{-1}$

which is  $x = x(u,v)$   
 $y = y(u,v)$   $z = z(u,v)$

## The geometric description of $f$ states:

- ① Consider line through  $(x, y, z)$  and  $(0, 0, 1)$  and  $(u, v)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$



$t \in [0, 1]$  a parameter.

$$t=0 \rightarrow (0, 0, 1)$$

$$t=1 \rightarrow (u, v, 0)$$

$$x = 0 + tu, \quad y = 0 + tv, \quad z = 1 - t.$$

- ② Find  $t \in [0, 1]$  s.t.  $x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1$ , i.e. find the intersection of  $S^2 \cap$  (orange segment above)

$$x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1 \quad t \neq 1$$



$$(ut)^2 + (vt)^2 + (1-t)^2 = 1 \quad t \neq 0$$



$$(u^2 + v^2 + 1)t^2 - 2t + 1 = 1 \quad t \neq 0$$



$$(u^2 + v^2 + 1)t = 2$$

$$t = \frac{2}{u^2 + v^2 + 1}$$

③ Now that  $t = \frac{2}{u^2+v^2+1}$  is the intersection point

$$(u, v) \longmapsto (x, y, z) = \left( \frac{2u}{u^2+v^2+1}, \frac{2v}{u^2+v^2+1}, \frac{u^2+v^2-1}{u^2+v^2+1} \right)$$

refer:  $x = 0 + tu$   
 $y = 0 + tv$   
 $z = 1 - t$

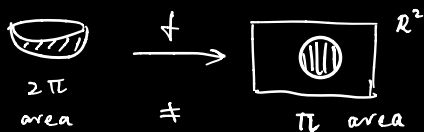
④ The map  $f: S^2 / \{N\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is

$$(x, y, z) \longmapsto (u, v) = \left( \frac{x}{1-z}, \frac{y}{1-z} \right)$$

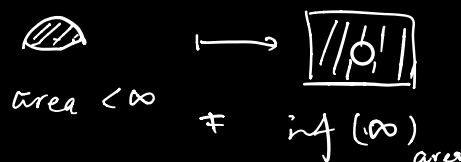
refer  $u = \frac{x}{1-z}, v = \frac{y}{1-z}$

Properties of Stereographic Proj.

(1)  $f$  does not preserve area. Thus  $f$  is not an isometry.



$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{hemisphere} & \xrightarrow{f} & \text{disk in } \mathbb{R}^2 \\ 2\pi \text{ area} & \neq & \pi \text{ area} \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{small region on } S^2 & \xrightarrow{f} & \text{square in } \mathbb{R}^2 \\ \text{area} < \infty & \neq & \infty \text{ area} \end{array}$$

(2)  $f$  preserves area