

Math 461 Lecture 26 11/2  
Homework 6 available and due  
next Wednesday

Last time:

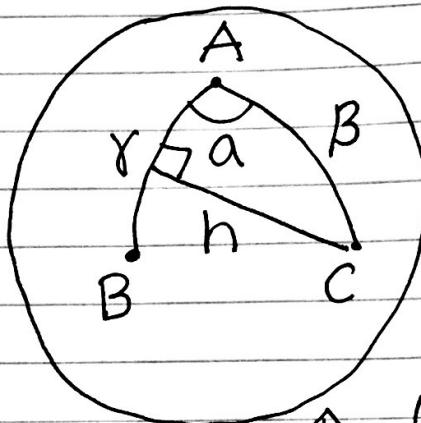
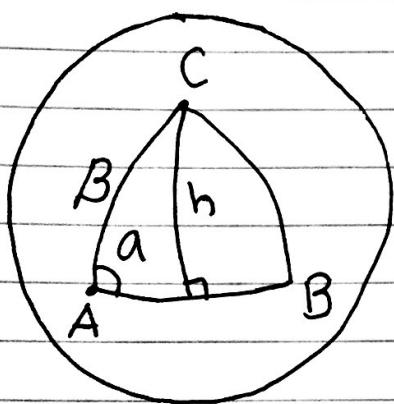
Spherical lines give shortest paths  
Spherical sine rule

Today:

finish statement and proof of  
spherical sine rule

spherical isometries

Last time:



choose coordinates

~~(x1, y1, z1)~~

in  $xz$  plane

$$A = (0, 0, 1)$$

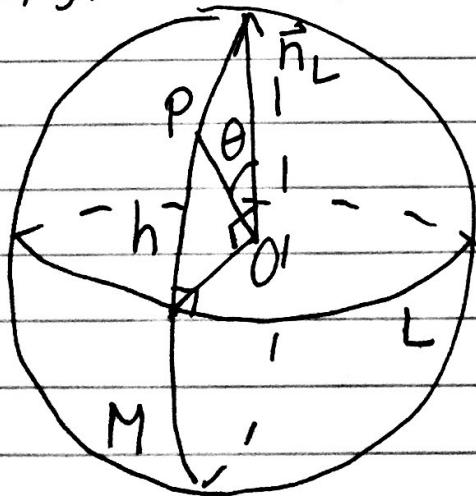
$$B = (\sin \gamma, 0, \cos \gamma)$$

$$C = (\sin \beta \cos \alpha, \sin \beta \sin \alpha, \cos \beta)$$

spherical polar coordinates

$$(x, y, z) = r(\sin \theta \cos \phi, \sin \theta \sin \phi, \cos \theta)$$

$$h = \frac{\pi}{2} - \theta \text{ OR}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\overrightarrow{OP} \cdot \vec{n}_L &= \cos \theta \\ &= \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{2} - h\right) \\ &= \sin(h)\end{aligned}$$

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$\vec{n}_L$  is a spherical line through A and B

$$\vec{n}_L = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{OP} \cdot \vec{n}_L = \begin{pmatrix} \sin B \cos a \\ \sin B \sin a \\ \cos B \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \sin B \sin a$$

so by \*  $\sin(h) = \sin B \sin a$

Similarly (reversing roles of A and B)

$$\sin(h) = \sin \alpha \sin b$$

$$\leadsto \sin B \sin a = \sin \alpha \sin b$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\sin \alpha}{\sin a} = \frac{\sin B}{\sin b}$$

now repeating for other pairs B,C  
and C,A and get:

Spherical sine rule

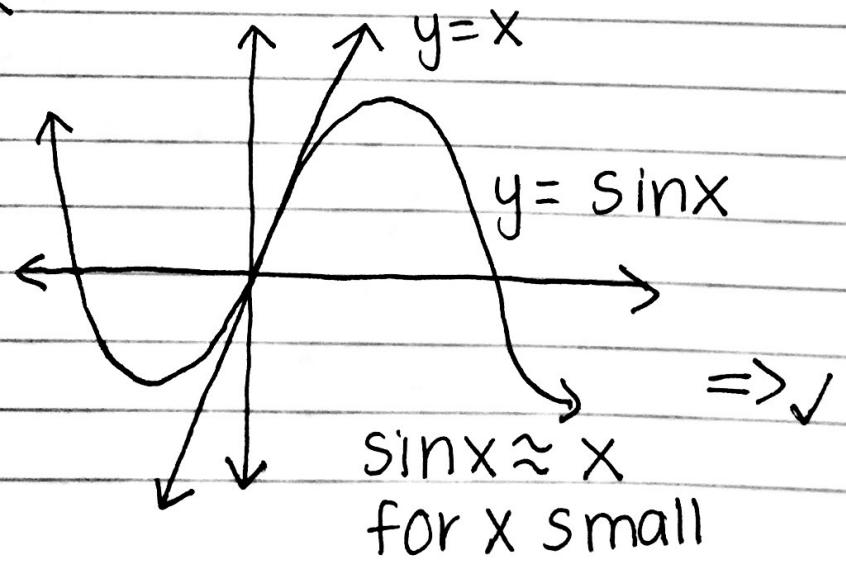
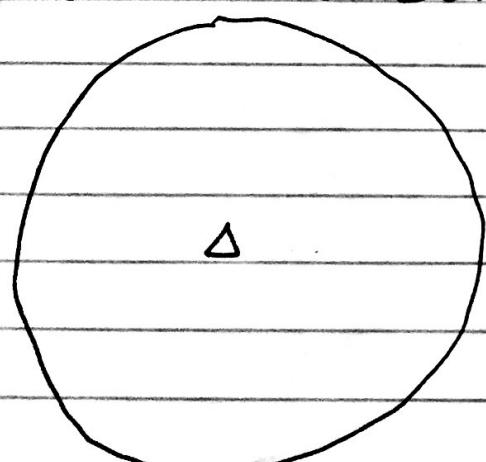
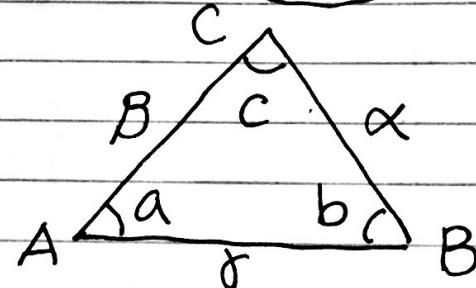
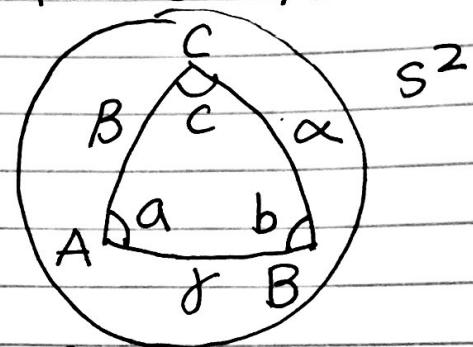
$$\frac{\sin \alpha}{\sin a} = \frac{\sin \beta}{\sin b} = \frac{\sin \gamma}{\sin c}$$

Compare with  
Euclidean case

$$\frac{\alpha}{\sin a} = \frac{\beta}{\sin b} = \frac{\gamma}{\sin c}$$

If  $\triangle ABC$  on the sphere is small,  
it's approximately

a plane triangle so SSR should  
reduce to ESR



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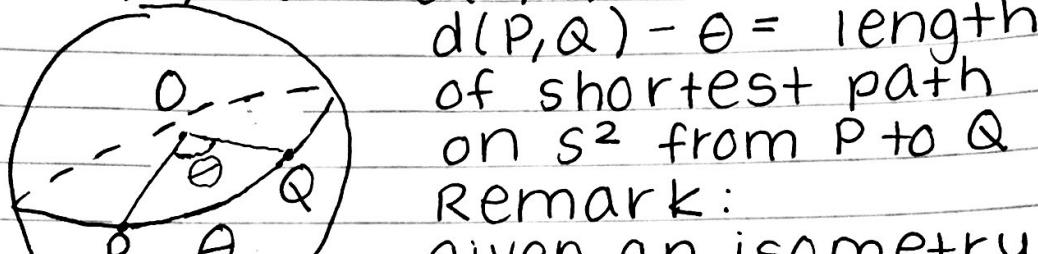
Spherical isometries:

$$S^2 = \{(x, y, z) \mid x^2 + y^2 + z^2 = 1\} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$$

sphere of radius 1 and center (0, 0, 0)  
an isometry of  $S^2$  is a transformation

$T: S^2 \rightarrow S^2$  such that  $T$  preserves distances

$$d(T(p), T(q)) = d(p, q) \text{ for all } p, q \in S^2$$



Remark:

given an isometry  
of  $S^2$  it will extend

to an isometry of  $\mathbb{R}^3$

i.e. have transformation  $\tilde{T}: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$   
such that  $d_{\mathbb{R}^3}(\tilde{T}(P), \tilde{T}(Q)) = d_{\mathbb{R}^3}(P, Q)$

and  $\tilde{T}(P) = T(P)$  for  $P \in S^2$

$$d_{\mathbb{R}^3}(\bar{v}, \bar{w}) = \|\bar{v} - \bar{w}\|$$

$$= \sqrt{(v_1 - w_1)^2 + (v_2 - w_2)^2 + (v_3 - w_3)^2}$$

example: rotation of  $\mathbb{R}^3$

$l$  line in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  (axis of rotation)

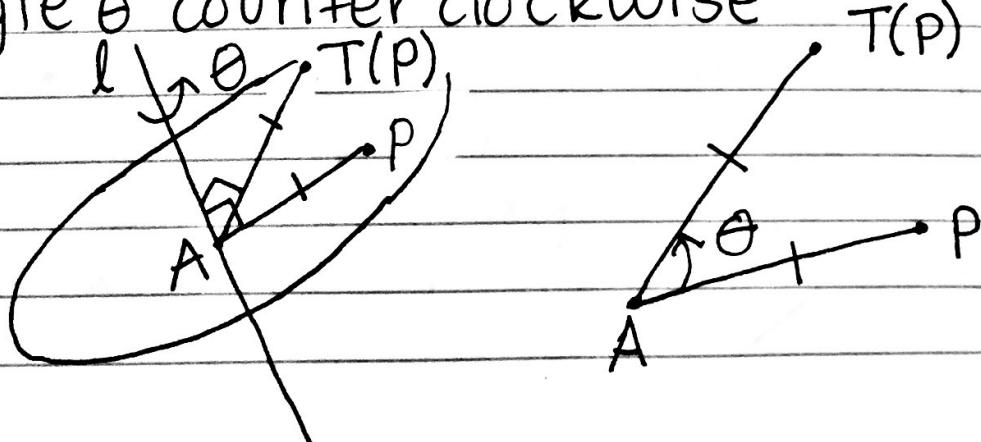
$\theta$  angle

rotate about axis  $l$  through angle  $\theta$

$$T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$$

Reminder:  $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$

rotation about a point  $A$  through  
angle  $\theta$  counter clockwise



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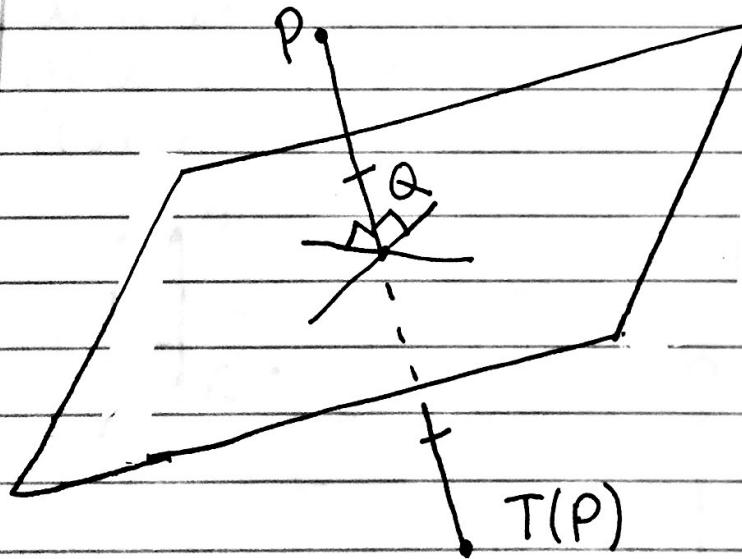
if you look at it from the top it looks like it rotates counter clockwise  
 if you look at it from the bottom it looks like it rotates clockwise  
 to completely specify a rotation in three dimensions need:

1. an axis  $\ell$  (line)
2. a choice of direction for  $\ell$
3. an angle  $\theta$  of rotation about  $\ell$   
 (with convention that rotation is counter clockwise when viewed from positive end of  $\ell$ )  
 and sense (ccw/cw) when viewed from positive end of  $\ell$

in general, given an isometry

$\tilde{T}: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  it will induce an isometry of  $S^2$  precisely when  $\tilde{T}(\vec{o}) = \vec{o}$   
 in the case of a rotation means  $\ell$  passes through  $\vec{o}$ .

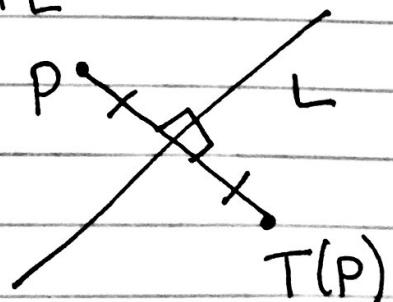
$T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  reflection in  $\pi$



$\pi$  plane

$C \mathbb{R}^3$   
 reminder:  
 2D reflection  
 in  $L$

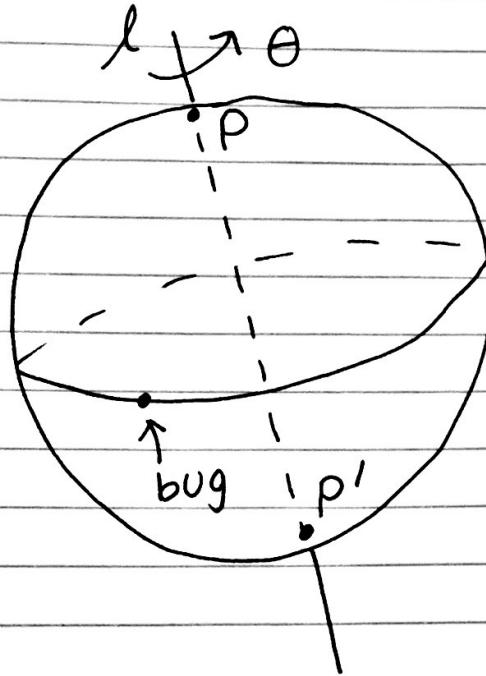
will give an isometry  
 of  $S^2$  when  $\vec{o} \in \pi$



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isometries in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ :

identity ✓ reflection ✓ glide  
translation rotation ✓



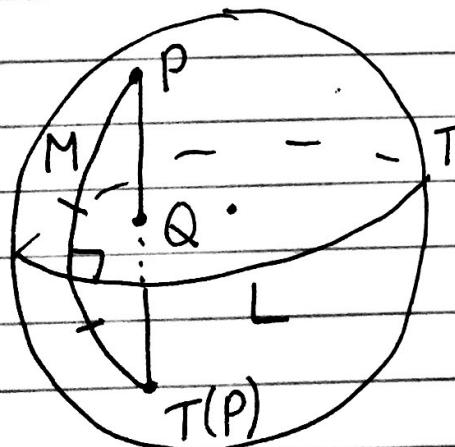
translation  
rotation in  $\mathbb{R}^2$   
are like a  
rotation in  $S^2$

glide:  
rotary reflection  
rotate about  
an axis  $l$  and  
then reflect in  
plane  $\pi \perp l$  to  $l$   
 $l$  and  $\pi \in \partial$

Theorem:  
every isometry of  $S^2$  is one of the  
following:

identity      rotation  
reflection      rotary reflection  
will prove later

how can these be defined on  $S^2$ ?  
(without reference to  $\mathbb{R}^3$ )



reflection in plane  
 $\pi$  through origin  
 $\pi \cap S^2 = L$

