

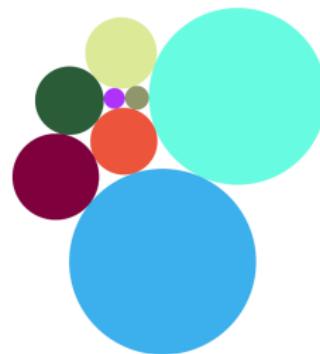


HITS

Heidelberg Institute for
Theoretical Studies

Planar graphs, circle packings, and conformal maps

Brice Loustau (HITS & Heidelberg University)



HITS Lab Meeting

07.09.2020

Planar graphs, circle packings, and conformal maps

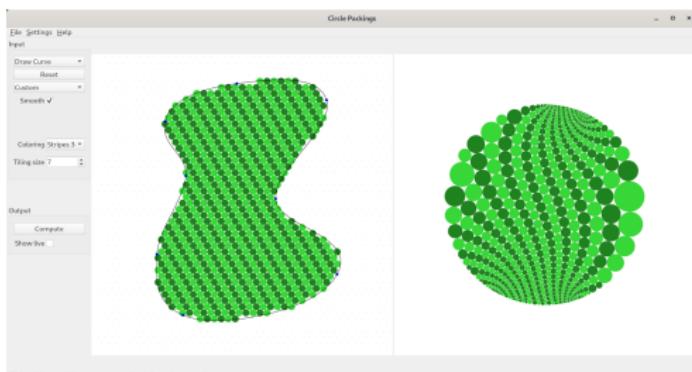
Outline.

1. Planar graphs
2. Circle packings
3. Conformal maps
4. Beyond

Planar graphs, circle packings, and conformal maps

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The software: *Circle Packings* (with B. Beeker)
brice.loustau.eu/circlepackings

1. Planar graphs

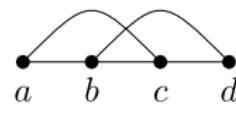
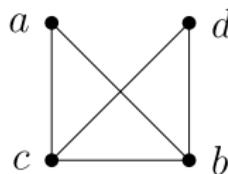
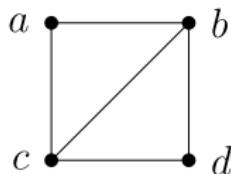
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- A set of *vertices* (or *nodes*)
- A set of *edges* = relation between vertices

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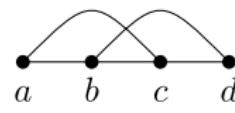
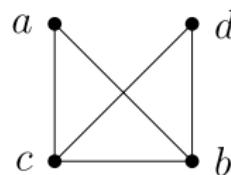
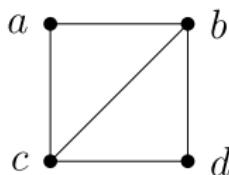
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Applications of graph theory:

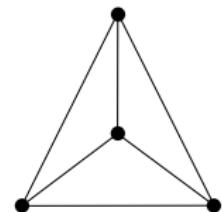
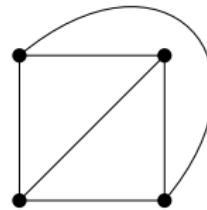
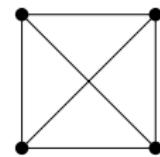
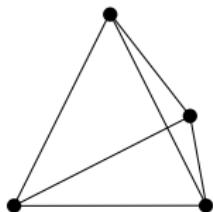
- Computer science (www, social media)
- Physics (Feynman diagrams)
- Chemistry (molecular graphs)
- Biology (neuroscience, genome graphs, evolutionary trees)
- Linguistics (syntax tree)
- Economy (economic networks)
- Sociology (social network analysis)

1. Planar graphs

A graph is called ***planar*** if it can be drawn on the plane with no edge crossings.

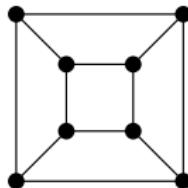
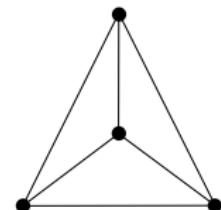
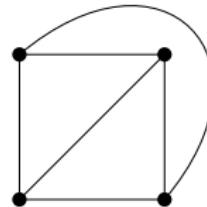
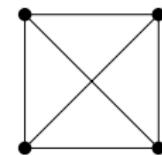
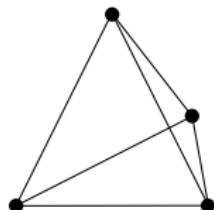
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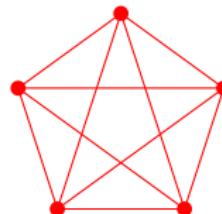
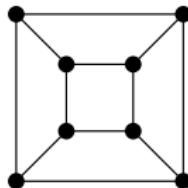
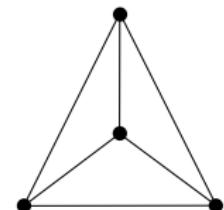
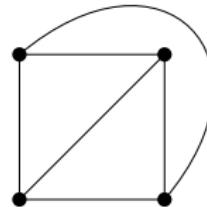
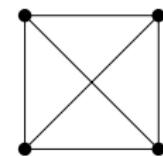
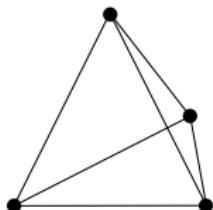
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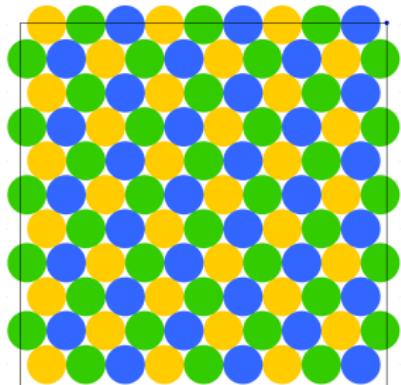
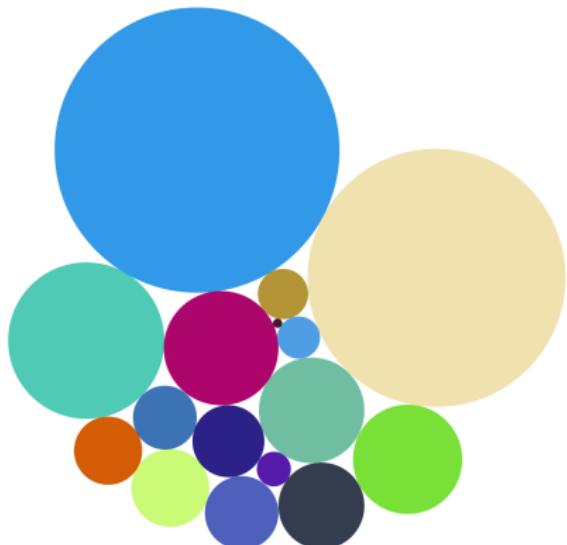
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2. Circle packings

A **circle packing** is a collection of circles that are either disjoint or tangent.



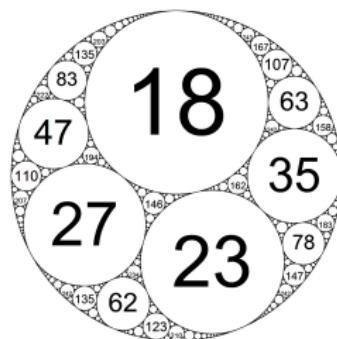
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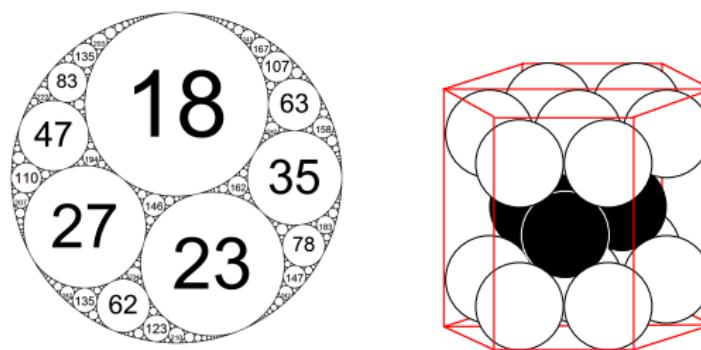
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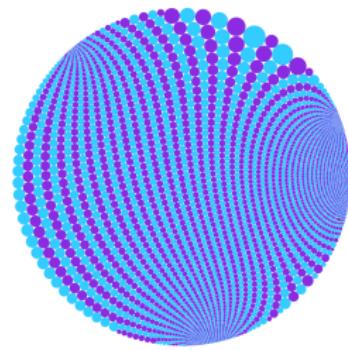
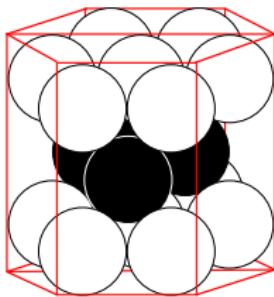
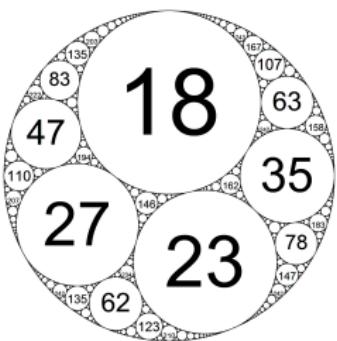
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 - Sphere packings (application: digital modulation)



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- Apollonian gaskets (number theory)
 - Sphere packings (application: digital modulation)
 - Graphs and discrete conformal structures (this talk!)



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A circle packing defines a graph:

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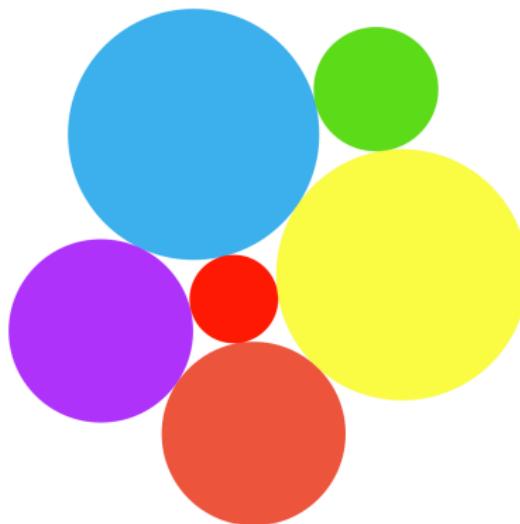
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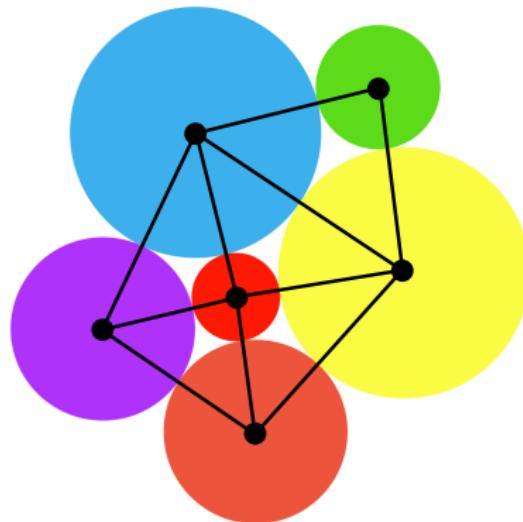
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(Thurston: It derives from Mostow rigidity for hyperbolic 3-manifolds.)

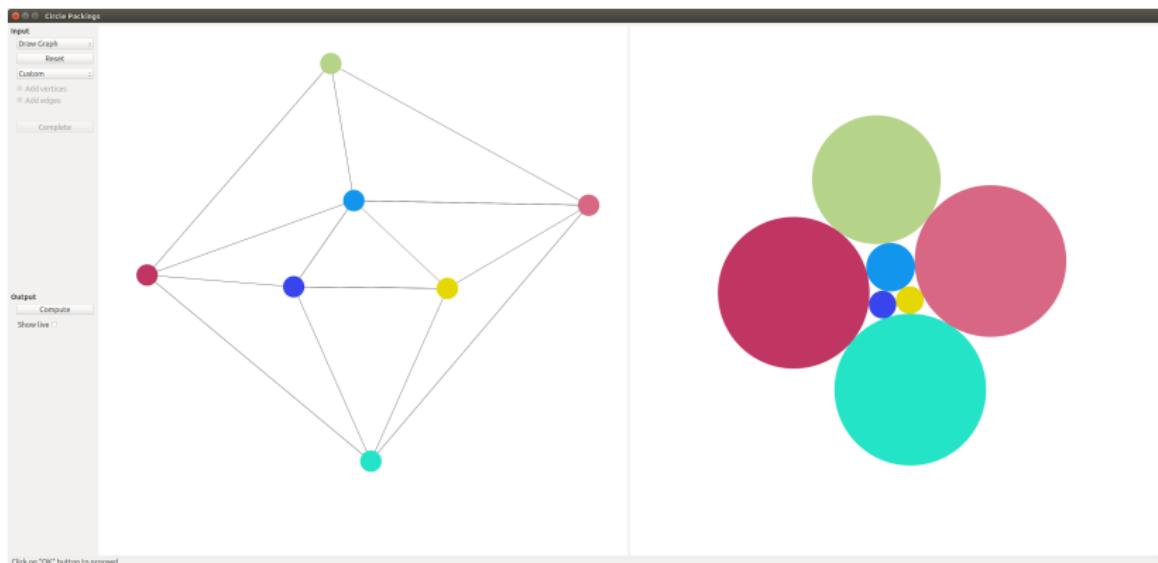
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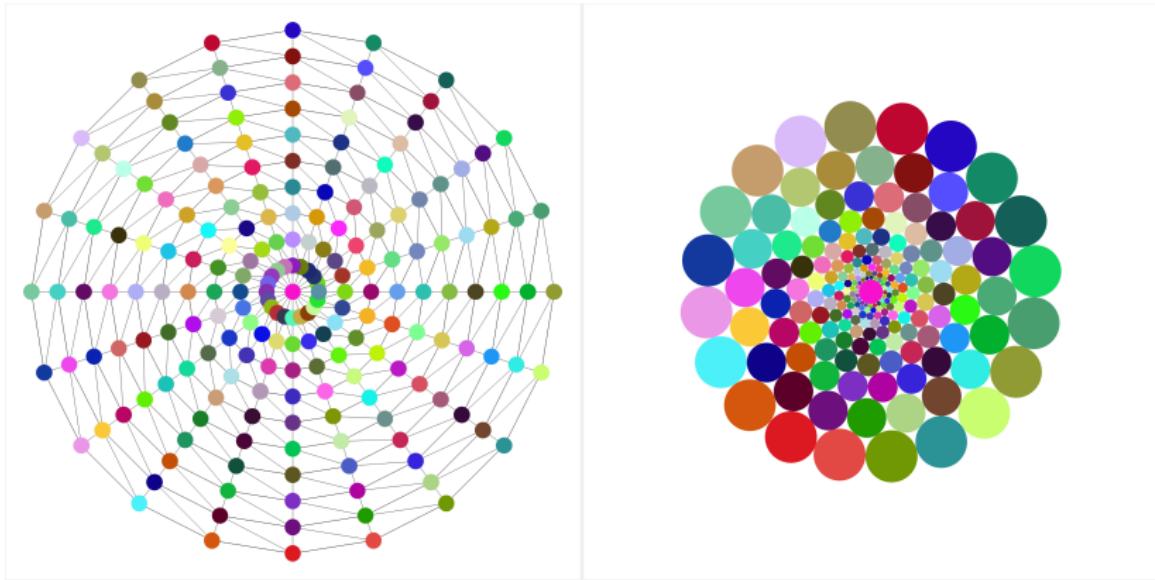
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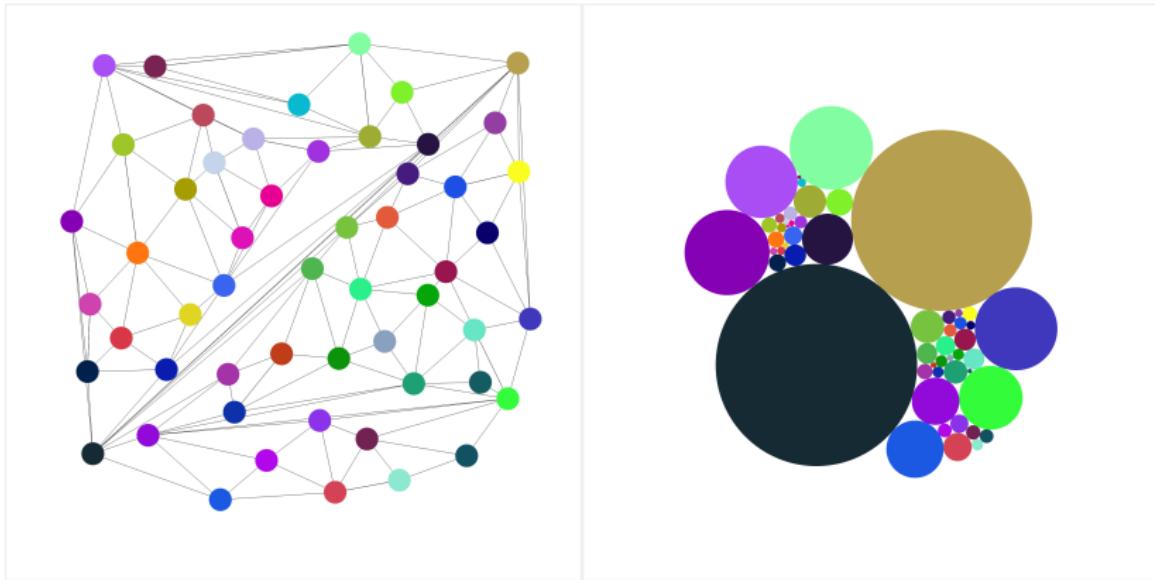
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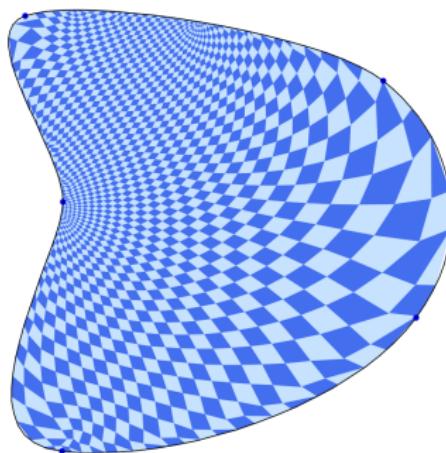
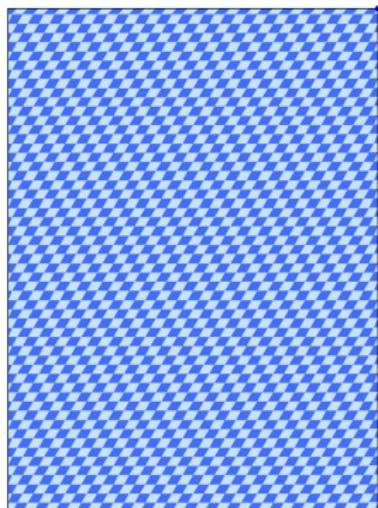


3. Conformal maps

A ***conformal map*** between two regions of the plane is a transformation that preserves shapes infinitesimally.

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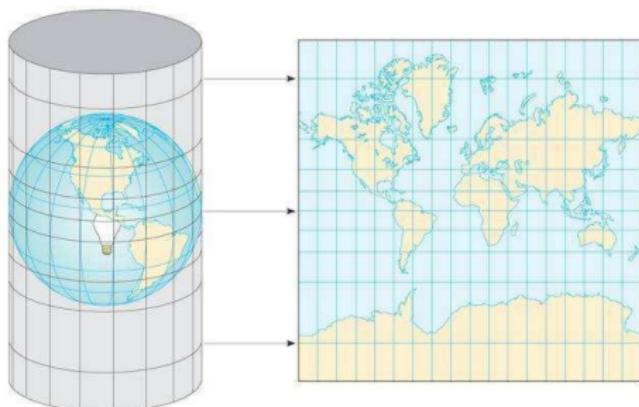


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Conformal maps are intensely studied by mathematicians and have many important real-world applications.

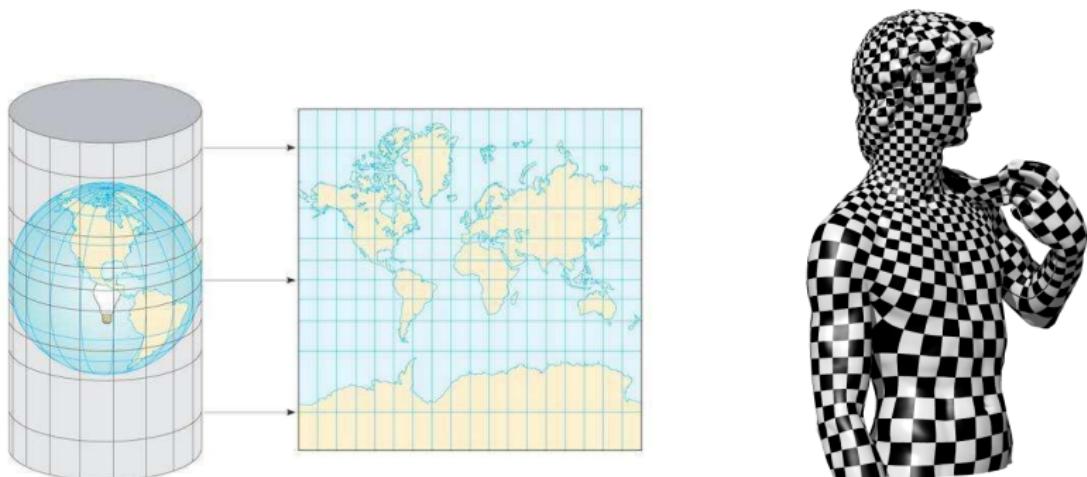
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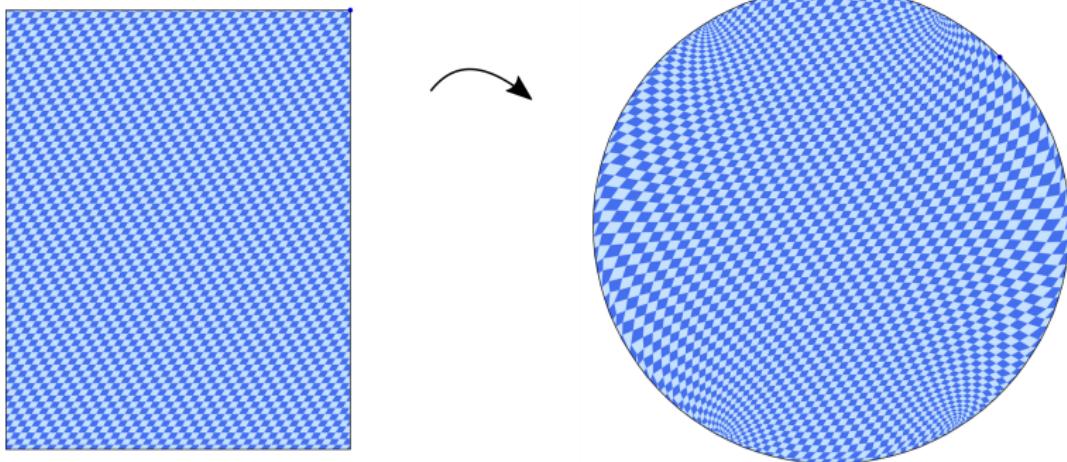
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Given any two simply-connected (no holes) regions R_1 and R_2 in the plane, there exists a unique conformal map $f: R_1 \rightarrow R_2$.

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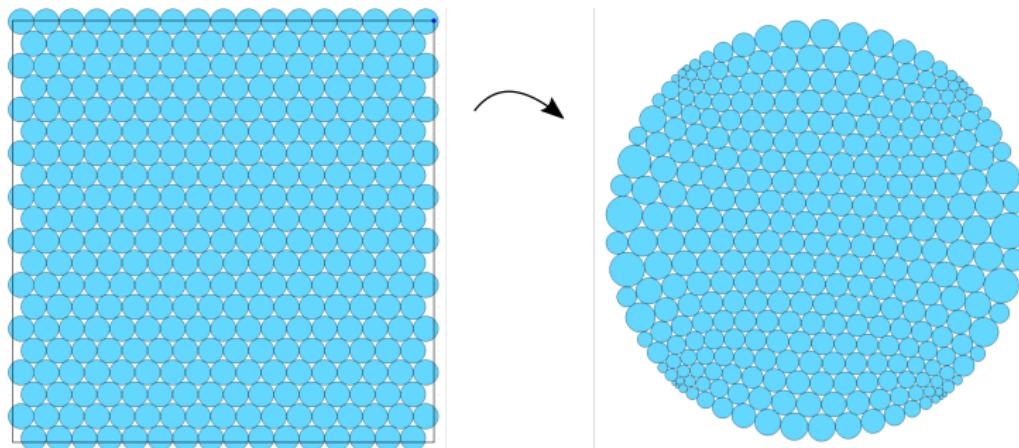
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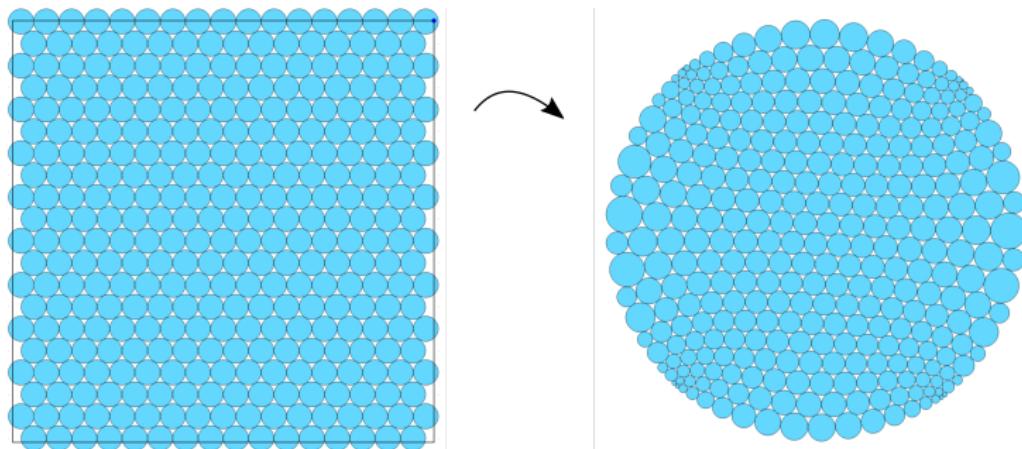
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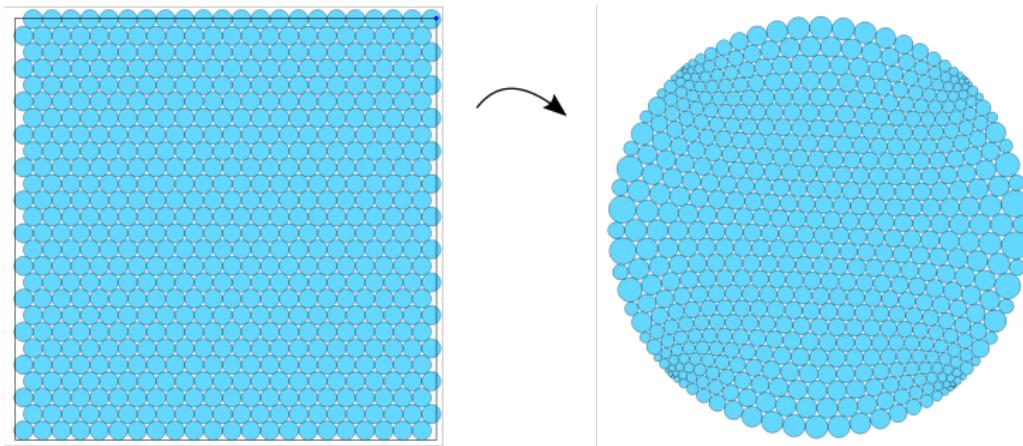
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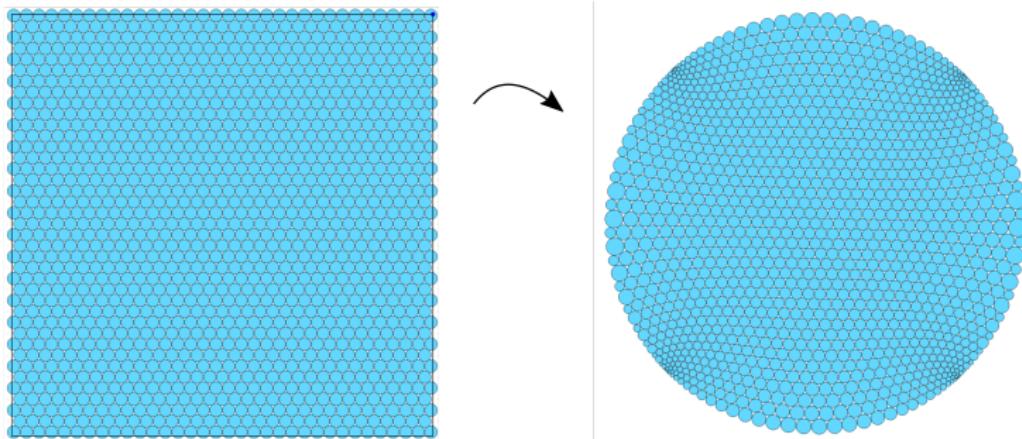
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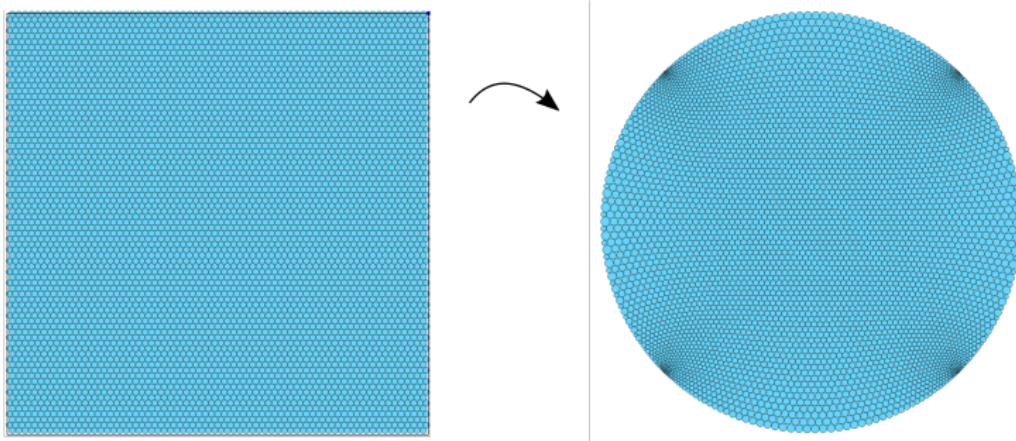
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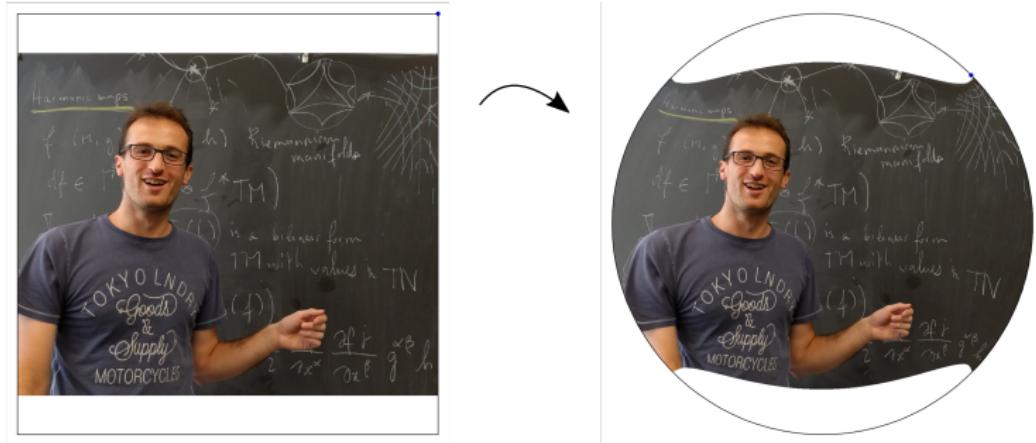
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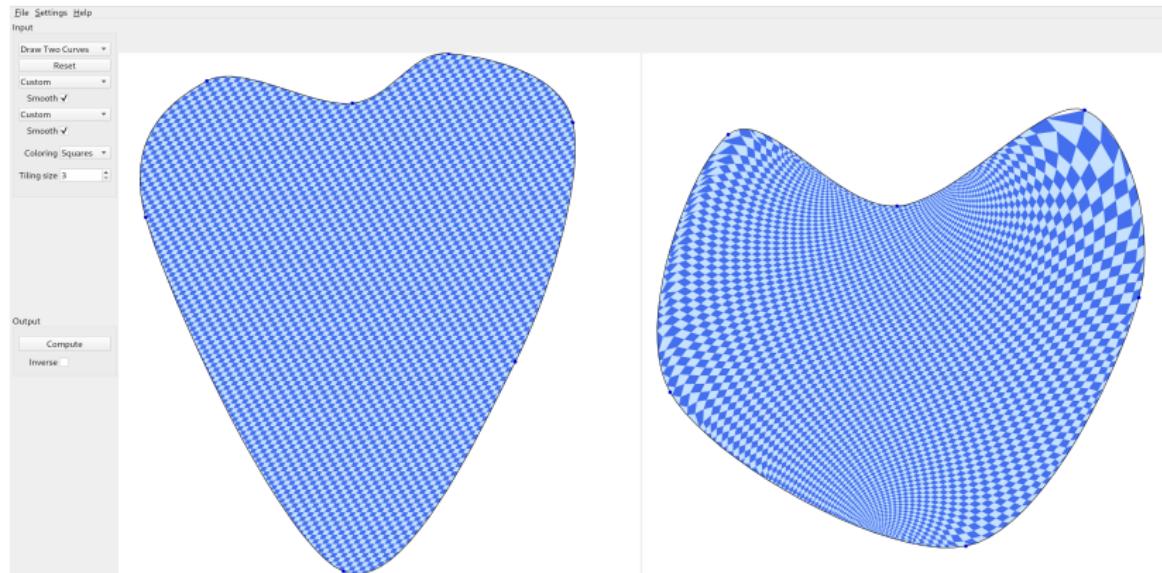
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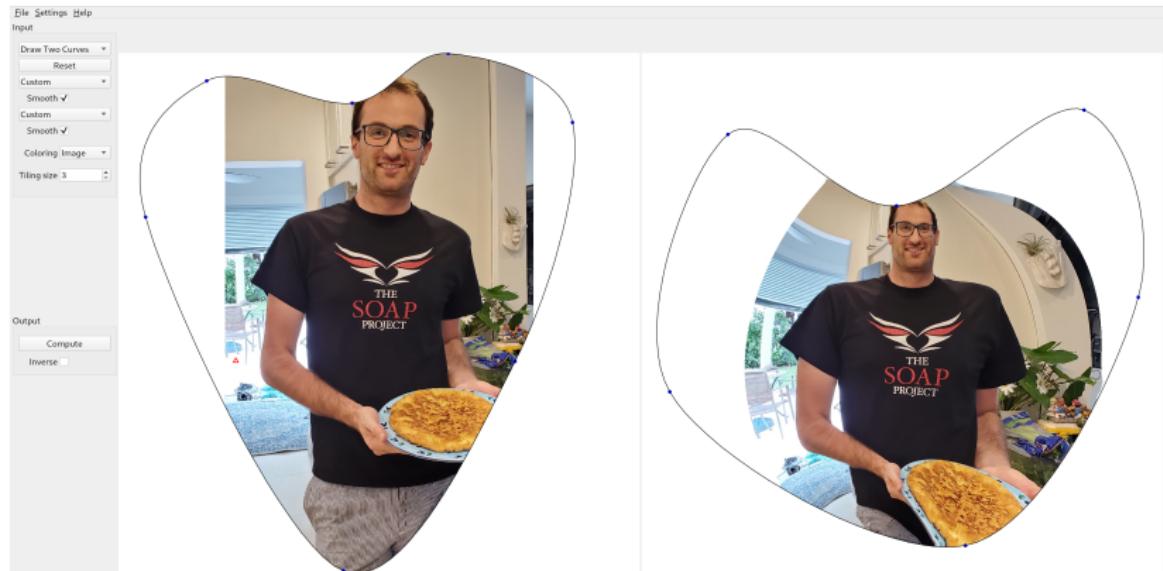
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Credit to Ken Stephenson and Charles R. Collins for the circle packing algorithm.

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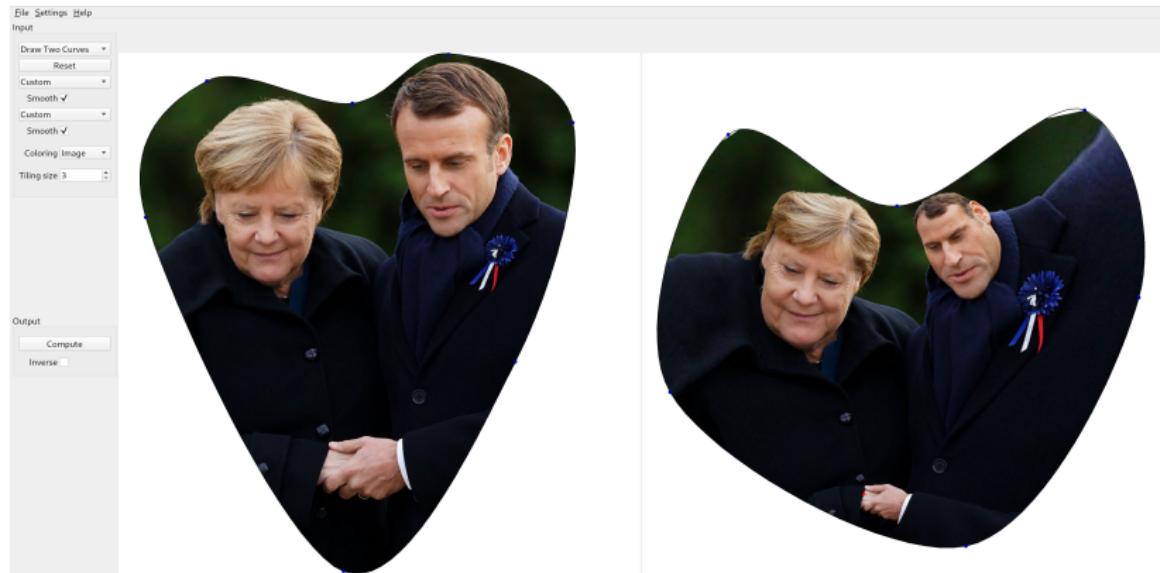
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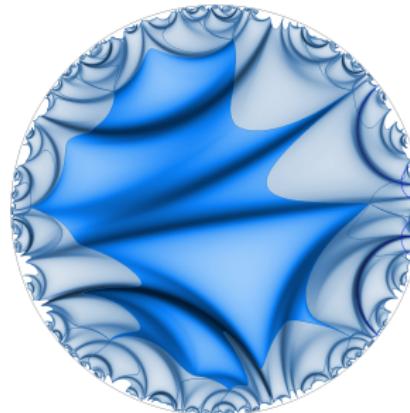
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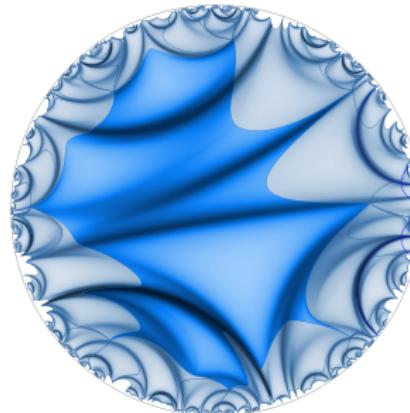
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