

Spherical Geometry Homework; Part 2

Due Monday November 9.

Read Spherical Geometry online (the Escher Wiki).

1. Give a definition for the defect of a triangle on the sphere. How do we compute the area of the triangle if we know what the defect is?

2.. Give a definition for the defect of a square on the sphere. What is the defect of a general n-gon? How do we compute the area of an n-gon??

3. For spherical triangles, fill in the empty (lettered) places in this table:

Angles	Defect	Area Fraction
$90^\circ 90^\circ 90^\circ$	a:	b:
$120^\circ 80^\circ 70^\circ$	c:	d:
$72^\circ 72^\circ 72^\circ$	e:	f:
$90^\circ 45^\circ g:$	45°	h:
$135^\circ 135^\circ i:$	j:	$1/4$

4. What is the upper limit for the defect of a triangle on the sphere? Hint 1: a really "big" triangle looks like the outside of a small triangle. Hint 2: What fraction of the sphere could it cover?

5. What is the upper limit for the defect of a spherical polygon with n sides?

6. Find a formula relating the angles of a triangle to the fraction of the sphere covered by the triangle.

7. Consider the sphere on page 246 of *Visions of Symmetry*; determine the corner angles of the rhombus on the sphere. Remember, you can do this by deciding how many fit together to make 360° at a vertex.