

Theory of Computation CS6160 – Fall 2010

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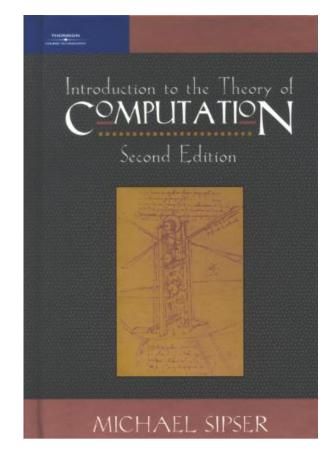
www.cs.virginia.edu/robins/theory



Theory of Computation (CS6160) - Textbook

Textbook:

Introduction to the Theory of Computation, by Michael Sipser (MIT), 2nd Edition, 2006

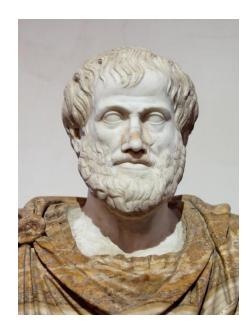


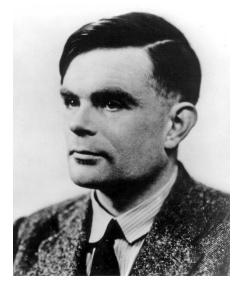
Good Articles / videos:

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Theory of Computation (CS6160) - Syllabus

- A brief history of computing:
- Aristotle, Euclid, Archimedes, Eratosthenes
- Abu Ali al-Hasan ibn al-Haytham
- Fibonacci, Descartes, Fermat, Pascal
- Newton, Euler, Gauss, Hamilton
- Boole, De Morgan, Babbage, Ada Agusta
- Venn, Carroll, Cantor, Hilbert, Russell
- Hardy, Ramanujan, Ramsey
- Godel, Church, Turing, von Neumann
- Shannon, Kleene, Chomsky, Hoare
- McCarthy, Erdos, Knuth, Backus, Dijkstra

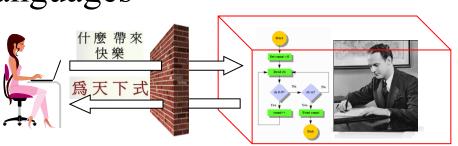




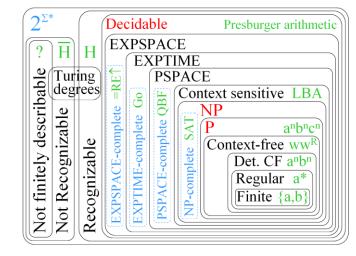
Theory of Computation Syllabus (continued)

Beyond the Chomsky Hierarchy:

- Review of automata & languages
- Two-way finite automata
- Generalized finite automata
- State set minimization
- Left/right linear grammars
- Deterministic context-free languages
- Counter automata and languages
- Ambiguity in grammars and languages
- Context-sensitive grammars
- The Turing Test
- Infinite automata



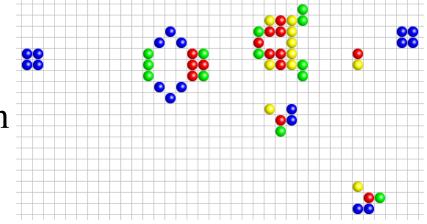
The Extended Chomsky Hierarchy

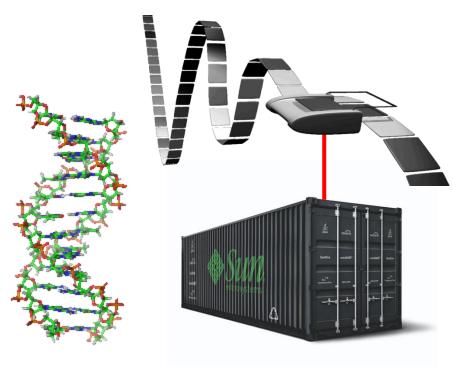


Theory of Computation Syllabus (continued)

Advanced Undecidability:

- Context-free intersections
- Post correspondence problem
- Linear-bounded automata
- Turing reducibilities
- Computational universality
- Conway's Game of Life
- Busy beaver problem
- The recursion theorem
- Oracles and relativizations
- Non-recognizability
- Turing degrees
- Randomness and entropy

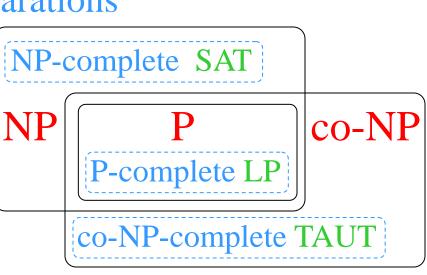


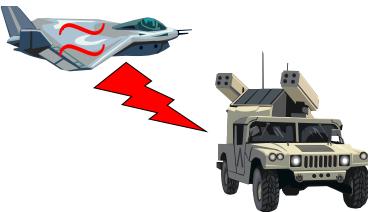


Theory of Computation Syllabus (continued)

Advanced complexity theory:

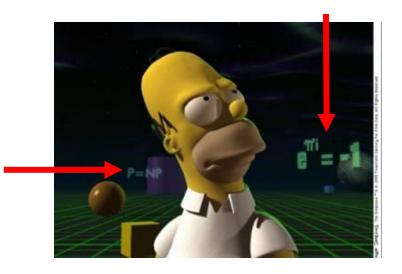
- Time and space complexity classes
- Complexity hierarchies / separations
- NP-completeness reloaded
- Problem reductions
- Graph colorability
- Set cover problem
- Knapsacks and subset sums
- Savitch's Theorem
- PSPACE completeness
- NL completeness
- Approximation algorithms
- Zero-knowledge proofs
- Arthur-Merlin games

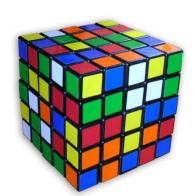




Overarching Philosophy

- Focus on the "big picture" & "scientific method"
- Emphasis on problem solving & creativity
- Discuss applications & practice
- A primary objective: have fun!

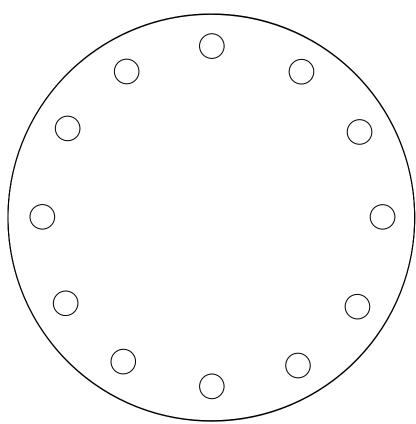






Problem: Can 5 test tubes be spun simultaneously in a 12-hole centrifuge?





- What approaches fail?
- What techniques work and why?
- Lessons and generalizations

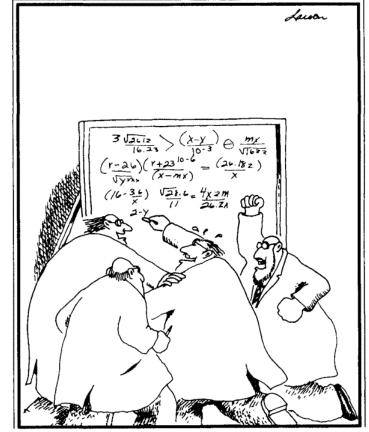
Prerequisites

- Some discrete math & algorithms knowldege
- Ideally, should have taken CS2102 / CS3102
- Course will "bootstrap" (albeit quickly) from first principles
- Tenacity, patience



Course Organization

- Exams: probably take home
 - Decide by vote
 - Flexible exam schedule
- Homeworks:
 - Lots of problem solving
 - Work in groups!
 - Not formally graded
 - Many exam questions will come from homeworks!
- Extra credit problems
 - In class & take-home



"Go for it, Sidney! You've got it! You've got it! Good hands! Don't choke!"

- Find mistakes in slides, handouts, materials, etc.
- Course materials posted on Web site www.cs.virginia.edu/robins/theory

Grading Scheme

- Midterm 35%
- Final 35%
- Project 30%
- Extra credit 10%

Best strategy:

• Solve lots of problems!



"Mr. Osborne, may I be excused? My brain is full."

Contact Information

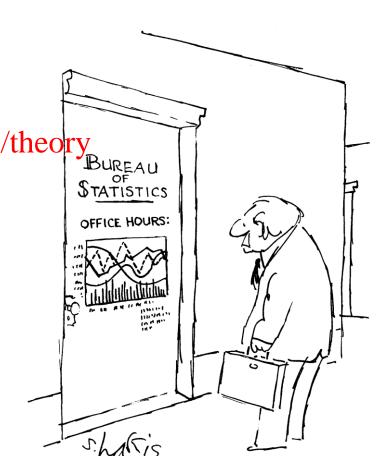
- Professor Gabriel Robins
- Office: 210 Olsson Hall

Phone: (434) 982-2207

- Email: robins@cs.virginia.edu
- Web: www.cs.virginia.edu/robins www.cs.virginia.edu/robins/theory Bureau STATISTICS

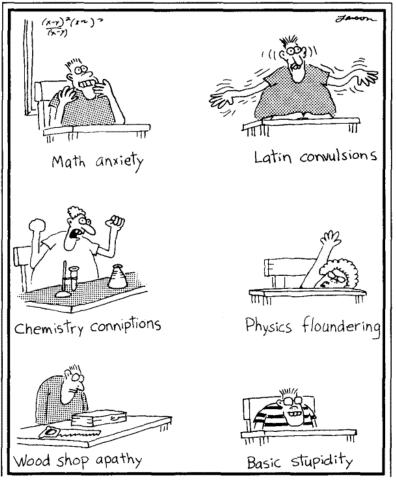
Office hours: after class

- Any other time
- By email (preferred)
- By appointment
- Q&A blog posted on class Web site



Good Advice

- Ask questions ASAP
- Do homeworks ASAP
- Work in study groups
- <u>Do not</u> fall behind
- "Cramming" won't work
- Start on project early
- Attend every lecture
- Read Email often
- Solve lots of problems



Classroom afflictions

Supplemental Readings www.cs.virginia.edu/robins/CS_readings.html

- Great videos:
 - Randy Pausch's "Last Lecture", 2007
 - Randy Pausch's "Time Management", 2007
 - "Powers of Ten", Charles and Ray Eames, 1977







- Theory and Algorithms:
 - Who Can Name the Bigger Number, Scott Aaronson, 1999
 - The Limits of Reason, Gregory Chaitin, Scientific American, March 2006, pp. 74-81.
 - Breaking Intractability, Joseph Traub and Henryk Wozniakowski, Scientific American, January 1994, pp. 102-107.
 - Confronting Science's Logical Limits, John Casti, Scientific American, October 1996, pp. 102-105.
 - Go Forth and Replicate, Moshe Sipper and James Reggia, Scientific American, August 2001, pp. 34-43.
 - The Science Behind Sudoku, Jean-Paul Delahaye, Scientific American, June 2006, pp. 80-87.
 - The Traveler's Dilemma, Kaushik Basu, Scientific American, June 2007, pp. 90-95.

- Biological Computing:
 - Computing with DNA, Leonard Adleman, Scientific American, August 1998, pp. 54-61.
 - Bringning DNA Computing to Life, Ehud Shapiro and Yaakov Benenson, Scientific American, May 2006, pp. 44-51.
 - Engineering Life: Building a FAB for Biology, David Baker et al., Scientific American, June 2006, pp. 44-51.
 - Big Lab on a Tiny Chip, Charles Choi, Scientific American, October 2007, pp. 100-103.
 - DNA Computers for Work and Play, Macdonald et al, Scientific American, November 2007, pp. 84-91.

- Quantum Computing:
 - Quantum Mechanical Computers, Seth Lloyd, Scientific American, 1997, pp. 98-104.
 - Quantum Computing with Molecules, Gershenfeld and Chuang, Scientific American, June 1998, pp. 66-71.
 - Black Hole Computers, Seth Lloyd and Jack Ng, Scientific American, November 2004, pp. 52-61.
 - Computing with Quantum Knots, Graham Collins, Scientific American, April 2006, pp. 56-63.
 - The Limits of Quantum Computers, Scott Aaronson, Scientific American, March 2008, pp. 62-69.
 - Quantum Computing with Ions, Monroe and Wineland, Scientific American, August 2008, pp. 64-71.

- History of Computing:
 - Alan Turing's Forgotten Ideas, B. Jack Copeland and Diane Proudfoot, Scientific American, May 1999, pp. 98-103.
 - Ada and the First Computer, Eugene Kim and Betty Toole, Scientific American, April 1999, pp. 76-81.
- Security and Privacy:
 - Malware Goes Mobile, Mikko Hypponen, Scientific American, November 2006, pp. 70-77.
 - RFID Poweder, Tim Hornyak, Scientific American, February 2008, pp. 68-71.
 - Can Phishing be Foiled, Lorrie Cranor, Scientific American, December 2008, pp. 104-110.

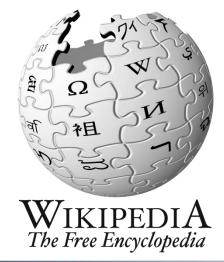
- Future of Computing:
 - Microprocessors in 2020, David Patterson, Scientific American, September 1995, pp. 62-67.
 - Computing Without Clocks, Ivan Sutherland and Jo Ebergen, Scientific American, August 2002, pp. 62-69.
 - Making Silicon Lase, Bahram Jalali, Scientific American, February 2007, pp. 58-65.
 - A Robot in Every Home, Bill Gates, Scientific American, January 2007, pp. 58-65.
 - Ballbots, Ralph Hollis, Scientific American, October 2006, pp. 72-77.
 - Dependable Software by Design, Daniel Jackson, Scientific American, June 2006, pp. 68-75.
 - Not Tonight Dear I Have to Reboot, Charles Choi, Scientific American, March 2008, pp. 94-97.
 - Self-Powered Nanotech, Zhong Lin Wang, Scientific American, January 2008, pp. 82-87.

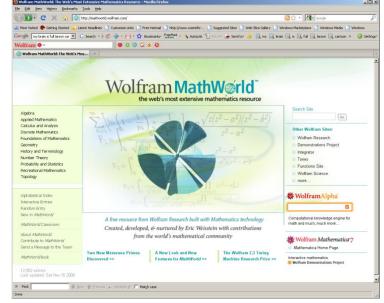
- The Web:
 - The Semantic Web in Action, Lee Feigenbaum et al., Scientific American, December 2007, pp. 90-97.
 - Web Science Emerges, Nigel Shadbolt and Tim Berners-Lee, Scientific American, October 2008, pp. 76-81.
- The Wikipedia Computer Science Portal:
 - Theory of computation and Automata theory
 - Formal languages and grammars
 - Chomsky hierarchy and the Complexity Zoo
 - Regular, context-free & Turing-decidable languages
 - Finite & pushdown automata; Turing machines
 - Computational complexity
 - List of data structures and algorithms

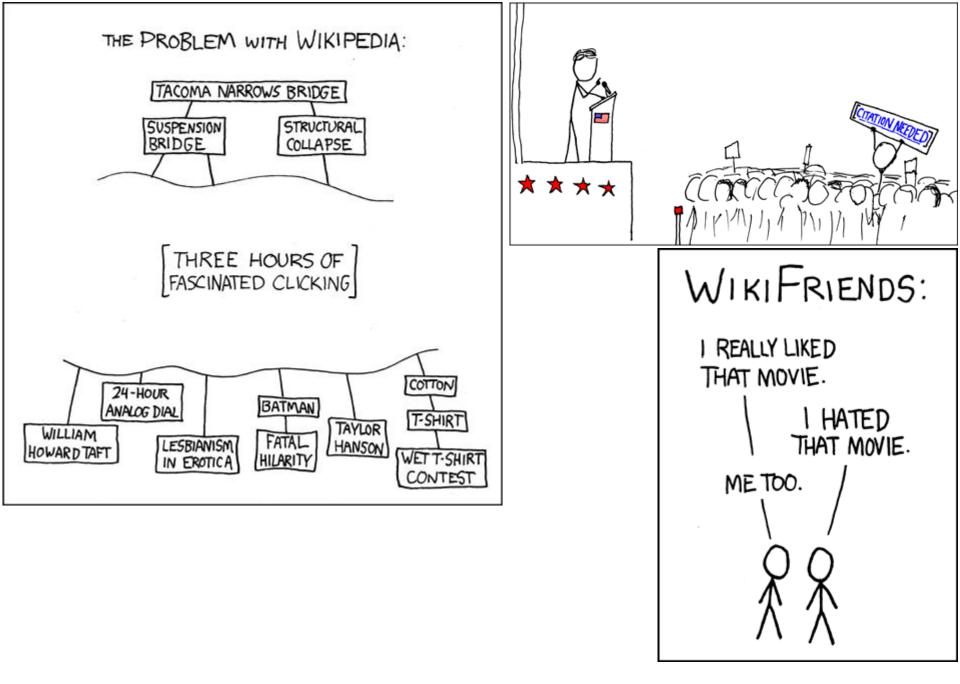


Supplemental Readings www.cs.virginia.edu/robins/CS_readings.html

- The Wikipedia Math Portal:
 - Problem solving
 - List of Mathematical lists
 - Sets and Infinity
 - Discrete mathematics
 - Proof techniques and list of proofs
 - Information theory & randomness
 - Game theory
- Mathematica's_"Math World"







Historical Perspectives



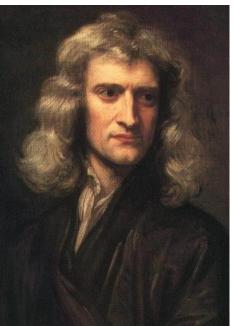
Historical Perspectives

- Science and mathematics builds heavily on past
- Often the simplest ideas are the most subtle
- Most fundamental progress was done by a few
- We learn much by observing the best minds
- Research benefits from seeing connections
- The field of computer science has many "parents"
- We get inspired and motivated by excellence
- The giants can show us what is possible to achieve
- It is fun to know these things!

"Standing on the Shoulders of Giants"

- Aristotle, Euclid, Archimedes, Eratosthenes
- Abu Ali al-Hasan ibn al-Haytham
- Fibonacci, Descartes, Fermat, Pascal
- Newton, Euler, Gauss, Hamilton
- Boole, De Morgan
- Babbage, Ada Agusta
- Venn, Carroll



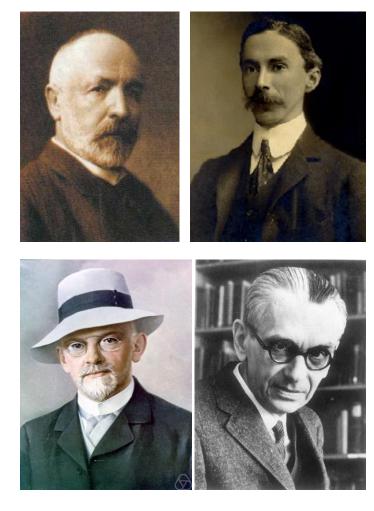


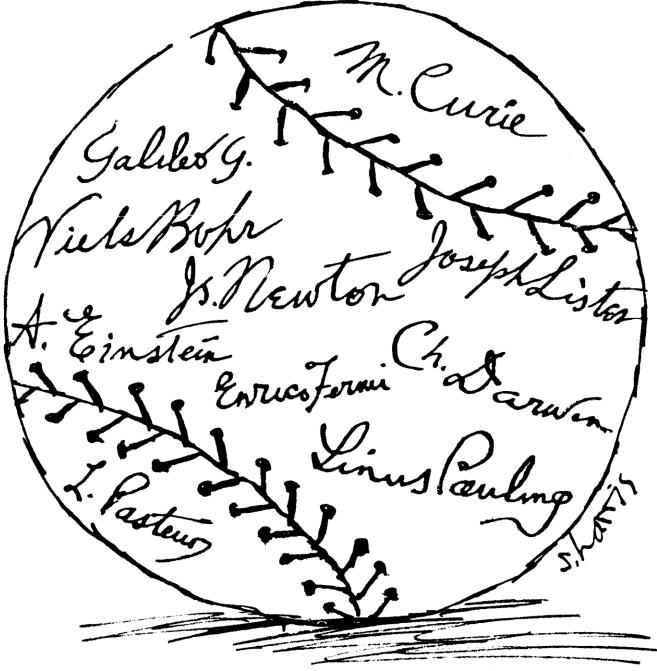


"Standing on the Shoulders of Giants"

- Cantor, Hilbert, Russell
- Hardy, Ramanujan, Ramsey
- Godel, Church, Turing
- von Neumann, Shannon
- Kleene, Chomsky
- Hoare, McCarthy, Erdos
- Knuth, Backus, Dijkstra

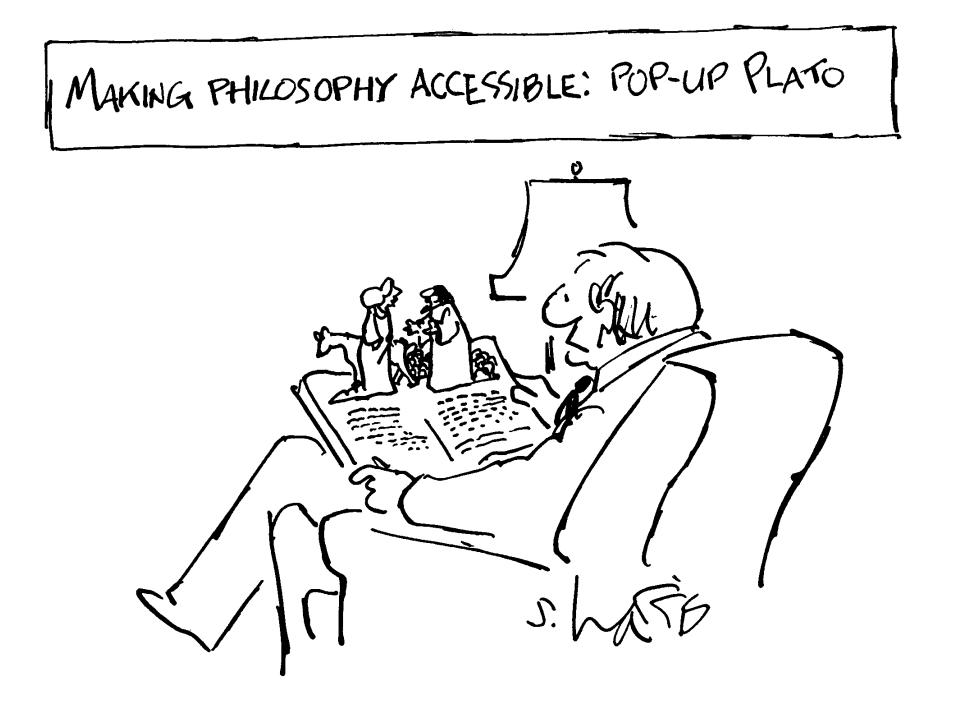
Many others...





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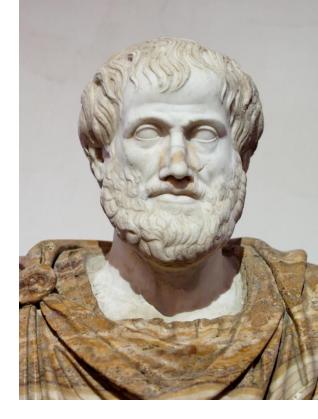


Historical Perspectives

Aristotle (384BC-322BC)

- Founded Western philosophy
- Student of Plato
- Taught Alexander the Great
- "Aristotelianism"
- Developed the "scientific method"
- One of the most influential people ever
- Wrote on physics, theatre, poetry, music, logic, rhetoric, politics, government, ethics, biology, zoology, morality, optics, science, aesthetics, psychology, metaphysics, ...
- Last person to know everything known in his own time!

"Almost every serious intellectual advance has had to begin with an attack on some Aristotelian doctrine." – Bertrand Russell









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ASHELLAS AD

"Wit is educated insolence." - Aristotle (384-322 B.C.)





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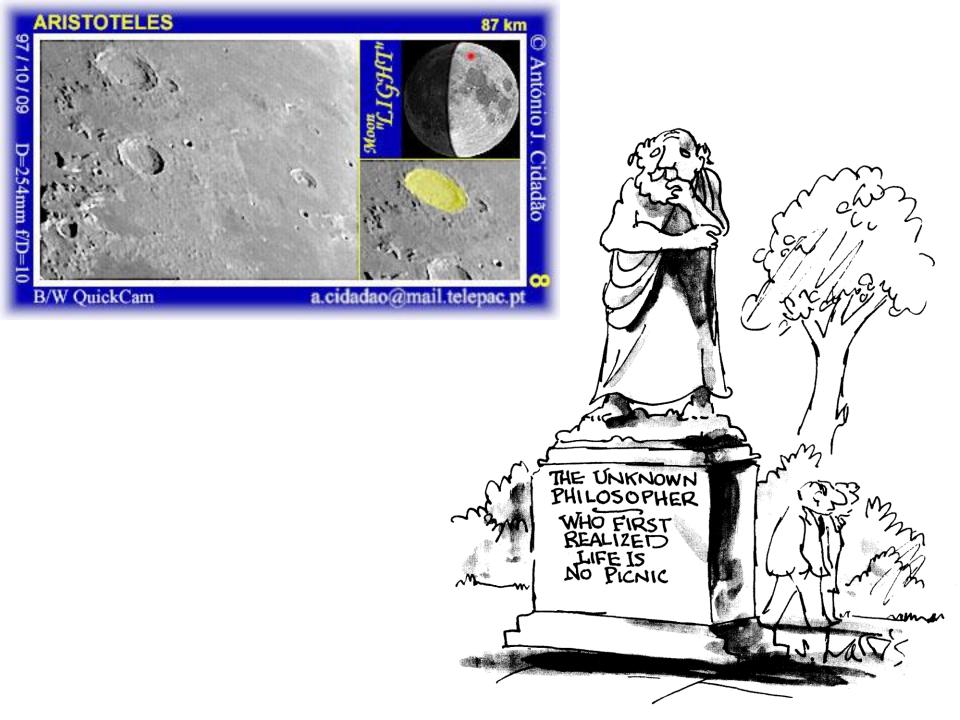
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Mare parvum est inter finem Ilyspanie a parte occidentis, et inter principium Indie a parte orientis.

(0(0)))))(2(0)))

Aristóteles (De cælo et mundo)

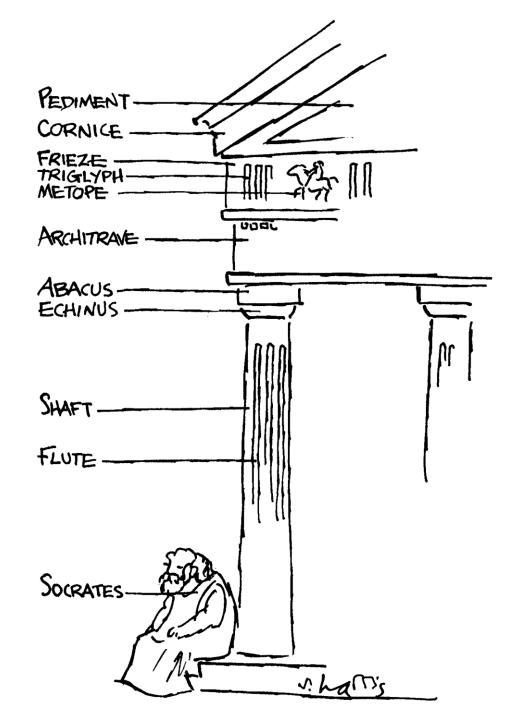








"What I especially like about being a philosopher-scientist is that I don't have to get my hands dirty."



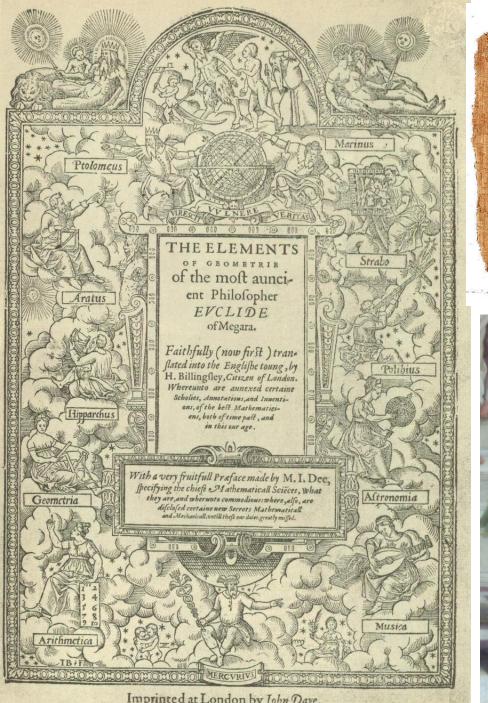
Historical Perspectives

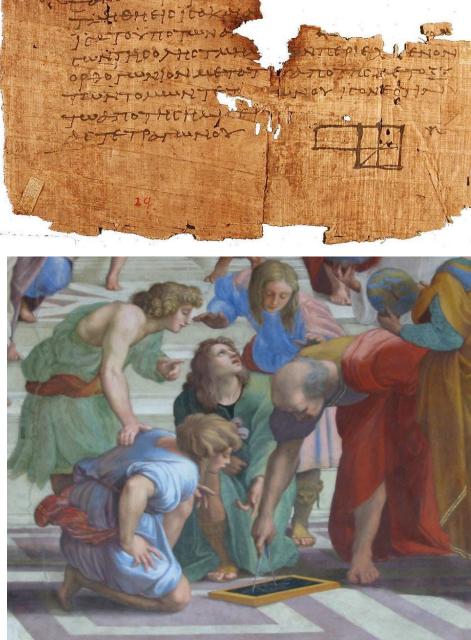
Euclid (325BC-265BC)

- Founder of geometry
 & the axiomatic method
- "Elements" oldest and most impactful textbook
- Unified logic & math
- Introduced rigor and "Euclidean" geometry
- Influenced all other fields of science: Copernicus, Kepler, Galileo, Newton, Russell, Lincoln, Einstein & many others

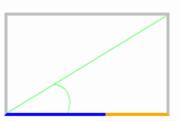




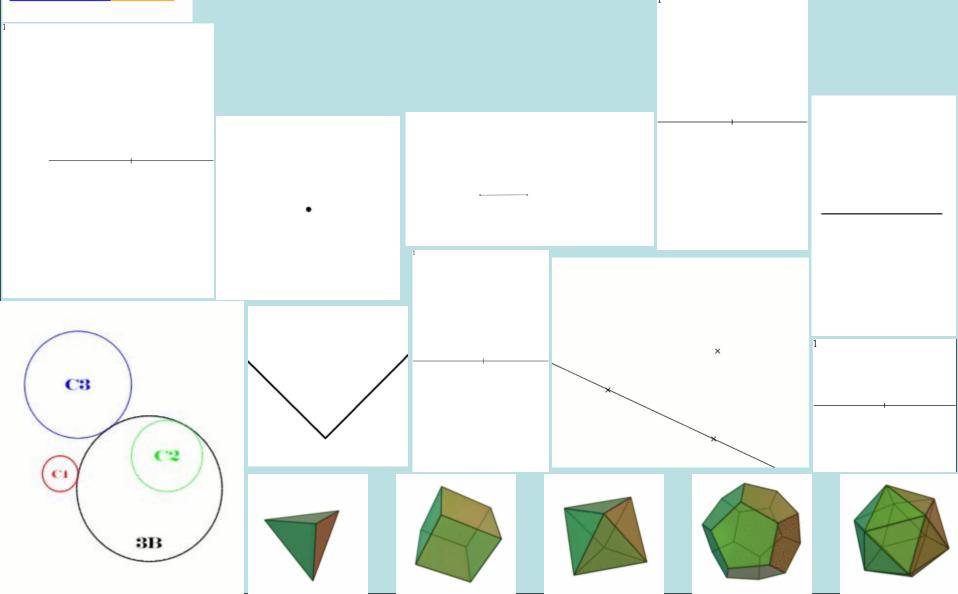




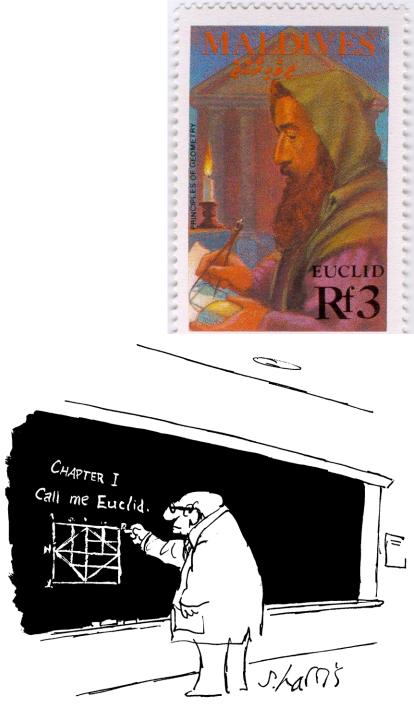
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Euclid's Straight-Edge and Compass Geometric Constructions

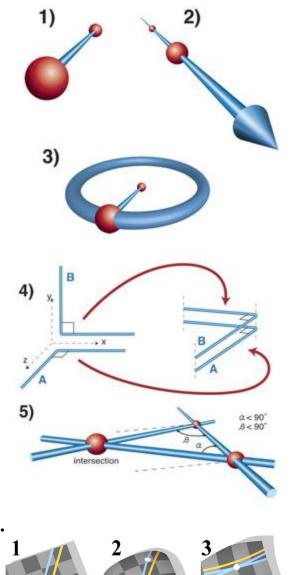


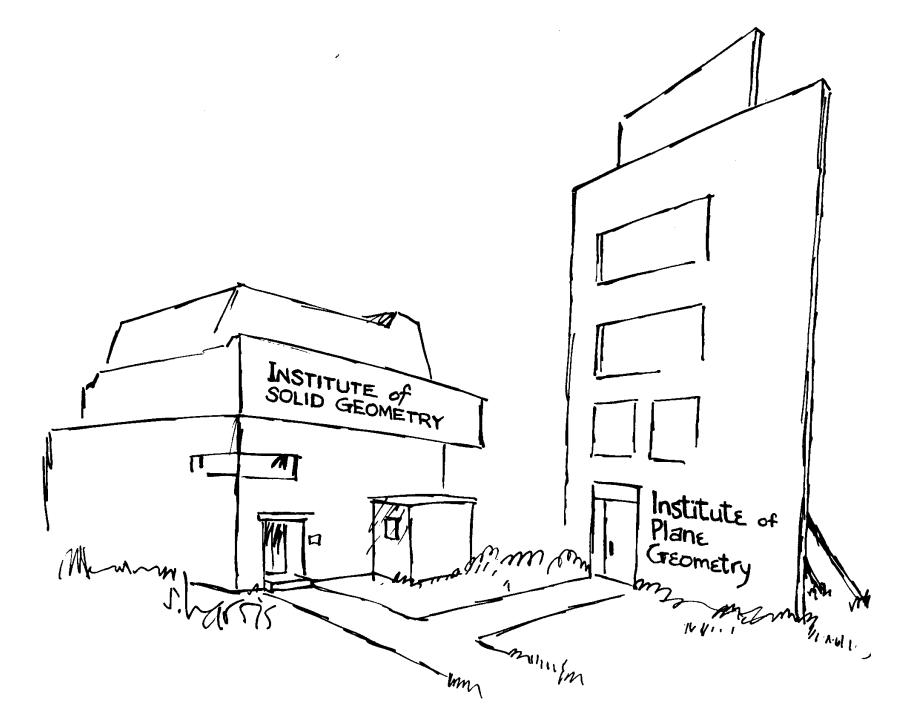




Euclid's Axioms

- 1: Any two points can be connected by exactly one straight line.
- 2: Any segment can be extended indefinitely into a straight line.
- 3: A circle exists for any given center and radius.
- 4: All right angles are equal to each other.
- 5: The parallel postulate: Given a line and a point off that line, there is exactly one line passing through the point, which does not intersect the first line.
- The first 28 propositions of Euclid's Elements were proven without using the parallel postulate!
- Theorem [Beltrami, 1868]: The parallel postulate is independent of the other axioms of Euclidean geometry.
- The parallel postulate can be modified to yield non-Euclidean geometries!



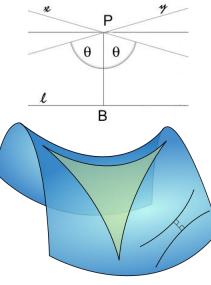


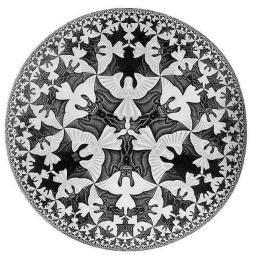
Non-Euclidean Geometries

Hyperbolic geometry: Given a line and a point off that line, there are an infinity of lines passing through that point that do not intersect the first line.

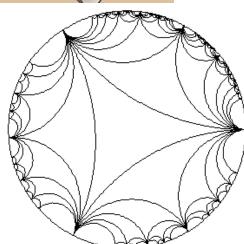
- Sum of triangle angles is less than 180°
- Not all triangles have the same angle sum
- Triangles with same angles have same area
- There are no similar triangles
- Used in relativity theory











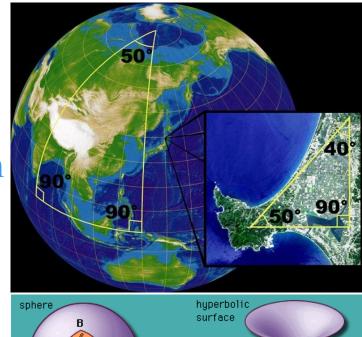


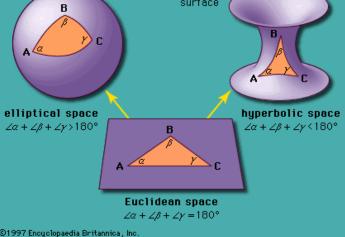
Abraham Albert Unga

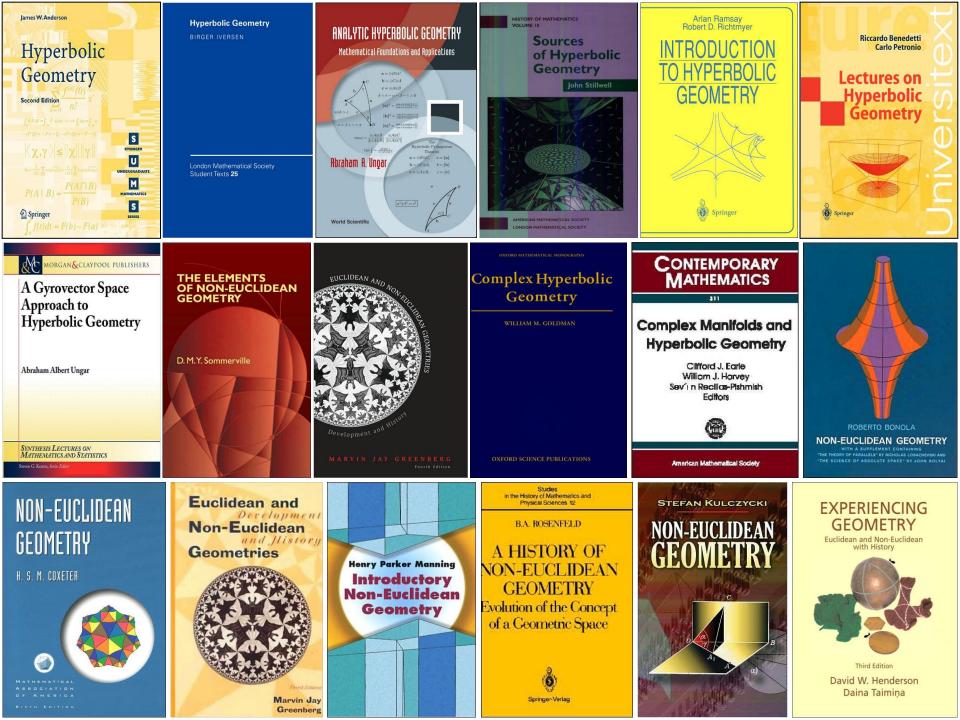
Non-Euclidean Geometries

Spherical / Elliptic geometry: Given a line and a point off that line, there are no lines passing through that point that do not intersect the first line.

- Lines are geodesics "great circles"
- Sum of triangle angles is $> 180^{\circ}$
- Not all triangles have same angle sum
- Figures can not scale up indefinitely
- Area does not scale as the square
- Volume does not scale as the cube
- The Pythagorean theorem fails
- Self-consistent, and complete









Founders of Non-Euclidean Geometry János Bolyani (1802-1860)



Nikolai Ivanovich Lobachevsky (1792-1856)



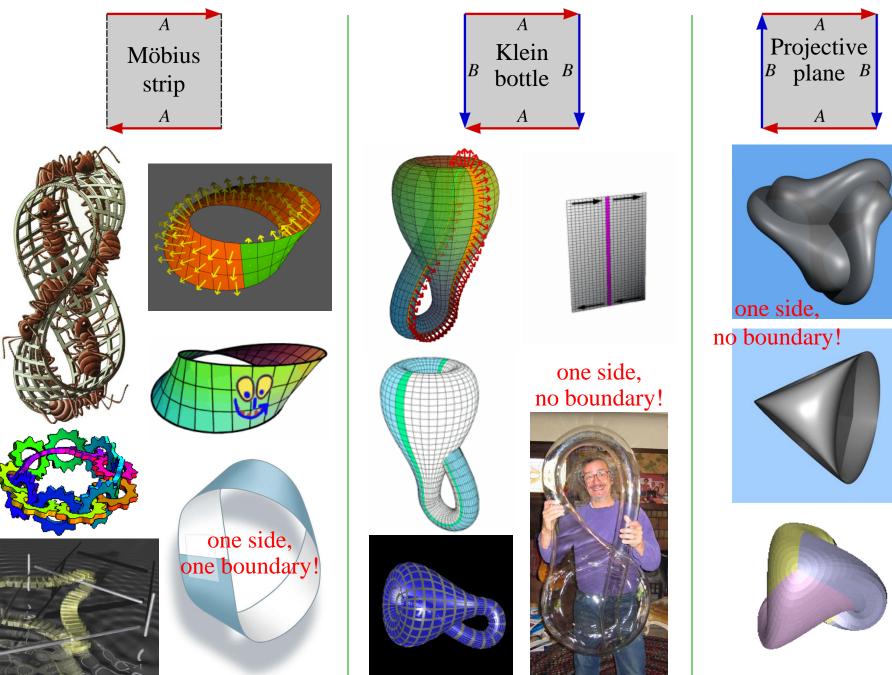




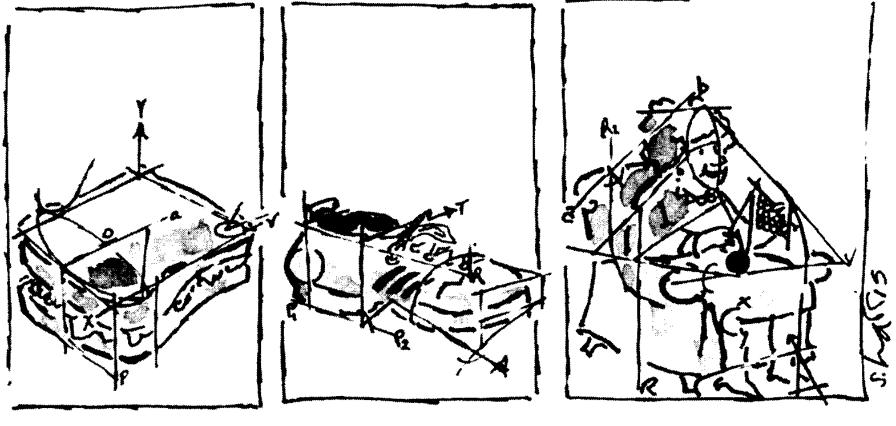




Non-Euclidean Non-Orientable Surfaces



THE GEOMETRY OF EVERYDAY LIFE



TUNA SANDWICH

SNEAKER

GRANDMA