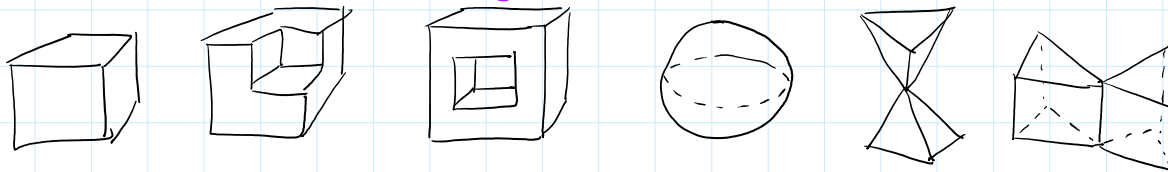


Which of the following are polyhedra?

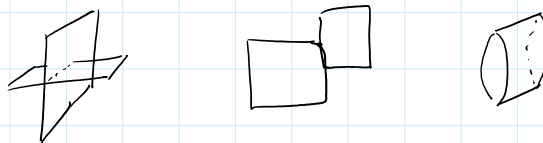


## DEFINITION OF POLYHEDRON

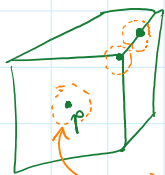
A polyhedron is composed of polygonal faces and satisfies the following requirements:

1. **INTERSECTION CONDITION:** Any two faces may only intersect along a single edge or at a single vertex.

NOT Allowed:



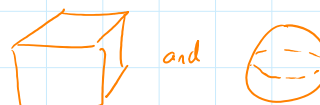
2. **LOCAL TOPOLOGY:** Every point  $p$  on the surface of a polyhedron has a neighborhood homeomorphic to an open disk.



Neighborhood of  $p$  is a set of all points on the polyhedron within some small distance of  $p$

Two surfaces are homeomorphic if they can be continuously deformed into each other (without gluing, tearing, or collapsing dimension).

EXAMPLES:

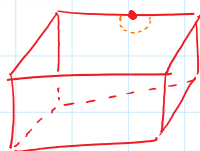


are homeomorphic



are not homeomorphic

Not allowed:



open box (no top)



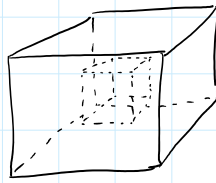
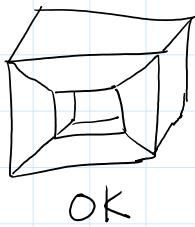
not homeomorphic to



not homeomorphic to



### 3. GLOBAL TOPOLOGY: Surface of polyhedron is connected.



not allowed:  
cube with a  
floating cavity

**EXERCISE:** For a polyhedron on the table in front of you,

compute  $V - E + F$ ,  
number of vertices - edges + faces

**NOTATION:** for a  
polyhedron  $P$ ,

$$\chi(P) = V - E + F$$

**EULER CHARACTERISTIC**

$$\chi(\text{cube}) = 8 - 12 + 6 = 2$$

$$\chi(\text{cube with hole}) = 12 - 24 + 12 = 0$$

$$\chi(\text{dodecahedron}) = 20 - 30 + 12 = 2$$

$$\chi(\text{tetrahedron}) = 4 - 6 + 4 = 2$$

$$\chi(\text{truncated tetrahedron}) = 9 - 18 + 9 = 0$$

$$\chi(\text{L-shaped polyhedron}) = 2$$

$$\chi(\text{truncated octahedron}) = 14 - 32 + 16 = -2$$

**THEOREM:** If polyhedron  $P$  is homeomorphic to a sphere,  
then  $\chi(P) = 2$ .

**NOTE:** Euler characteristic applies not just to polyhedra, but  
to surfaces (and lots of other objects).

**EXAMPLES:**  $\chi(\text{sphere}) = 2$

$\chi(\text{torus}) = 0$

Euler characteristic is  
invariant under homeomorphism.

$$\chi(\text{torus}) = -2$$

**THEOREM:** For a (closed, orientable) surface  $S$  with  $g$  holes, the Euler characteristic  $\chi(S) = 2 - 2g$ .

**DEF:** The **GENUS** of a surface is the number of holes (i.e. tunnels).

**QUESTION:** If every face of a polyhedron is either a pentagon or a hexagon, and all vertices have degree 3, then how many faces are pentagons?

$$\text{Total degree: } 3V = 2E$$

Let  $n$  be the number of pentagons, and  $m$  be the number of hexagons.

$$\text{Then: } F = m + n$$

$$5n + 6m = 3V = 2E$$

$$V = \frac{5n + 6m}{3}$$

$$E = \frac{5n + 6m}{2}$$

$$\text{Euler characteristic: } V - E + F = 2$$

$$6 \left( \frac{5n + 6m}{3} - \frac{5n + 6m}{2} + (m + n) \right) = (2) \times$$

$$10n + 12m - 15n - 18m + 6m + 6n = 12$$

$$n = 12$$