

# The Möbius strip

One way to define the Möbius strip is to take  $M = [0, 1] \times [-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}] / \mathcal{R}$  where  $\mathcal{R}$  is the equivalence relation whose equivalence classes with more than one point are  $\{(1, s), (0, -s)\}$



We can realize this space as a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  explicitly by the following map, given by cylindrical coordinates  $(r, \theta, z)$

$$r(t, s) = 1 + s \cos \pi t$$

$$\theta(t, s) = 2\pi t \quad z(t, s) = s \sin \pi t.$$

One can check directly that  $(t, s)$  and  $(t', s')$  map to the same point of  $\mathbb{R}^3 \Leftrightarrow$

$(t, s) = (t', s')$  or one of  $(t, s) + (t', s')$  is

$(0, s)$  and the other is  $(1, -s)$ . This yields a well-defined continuous 1-1 map  $M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ ,

which must be a homeomorphism onto its image.