

Once we're at a triangle we have

$$\chi(\triangle) = V - E + F = 3 - 3 + 1 = 1$$

But, remember, we deleted a face at the beginning, so

$$\chi(P) = \chi(\triangle) + \underset{\substack{\text{the deleted face} \\ \downarrow}}{1} = 2$$



We say that a polyhedron is regular if all faces are congruent regular polygons. A polyhedron is a Platonic solid if it is convex and regular, and the same number of faces meet at every vertex.

Theorem: There are exactly 5 Platonic solids.

proof: Let  $P$  be a Platonic solid. Then, Euler's polyhedron formula tells us

$$\chi(P) = V - E + F = 2$$

Suppose that the faces of  $P$  have  $n$  sides and that  $c$  faces meet at every vertex.



Then  $n \geq 3$  since a regular polygon has at least 3 sides, and  $c \geq 3$  since it doesn't make sense for only 2 (or 1) faces to meet at a vertex. 26

We can also find relationships between  $V$ ,  $E$ , and  $F$ .

$$nF = \# \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{faces,} \\ \text{edge of} \\ \text{face} \end{array} \right\} = 2E$$

$$\Rightarrow F = \frac{2}{n} E$$

$$2E = \# \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{edge,} \\ \text{vertex} \\ \text{of edge} \end{array} \right\} = cV$$

$$\Rightarrow V = \frac{2}{c} E$$

$$\Rightarrow V - E + F = \frac{2}{c} E - E + \frac{2}{n} E = E \left( \frac{2}{c} - 1 + \frac{2}{n} \right) = 2$$

Since  $E > 0$ ,

$$\frac{2}{c} - 1 + \frac{2}{n} > 0$$



Now, since  $c \geq 3$ ,

$$0 < \frac{2}{c} - 1 + \frac{2}{n} \leq \frac{2}{3} - 1 + \frac{2}{n} = \frac{2}{n} - \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{2}{n} > \frac{1}{3} \Rightarrow 6 > n \Rightarrow n = 3, 4, 5$$

$$\underline{n=3}: \frac{2}{c} - 1 + \frac{2}{3} > 0 \Rightarrow \frac{2}{c} - \frac{1}{3} > 0 \Rightarrow \frac{2}{c} > \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\Rightarrow c < 6 \Rightarrow c = 3, 4, 5$$

$$\underline{n=4}: \frac{2}{c} - 1 + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{2}{c} - \frac{1}{2} > 0 \Rightarrow \frac{2}{c} > \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow 4 > c \Rightarrow c = 3$$

$$\underline{n=5}: \frac{2}{c} - 1 + \frac{2}{5} = \frac{2}{c} - \frac{3}{5} > 0 \Rightarrow \frac{2}{c} > \frac{3}{5}$$

$$\Rightarrow 10 > 3c \Rightarrow \frac{10}{3} > c \Rightarrow c = 3$$

n	c	Solid
3	3	Tetrahedron
3	4	Octahedron
3	5	Icosahedron
4	3	Cube
5	3	Dodecahedron

