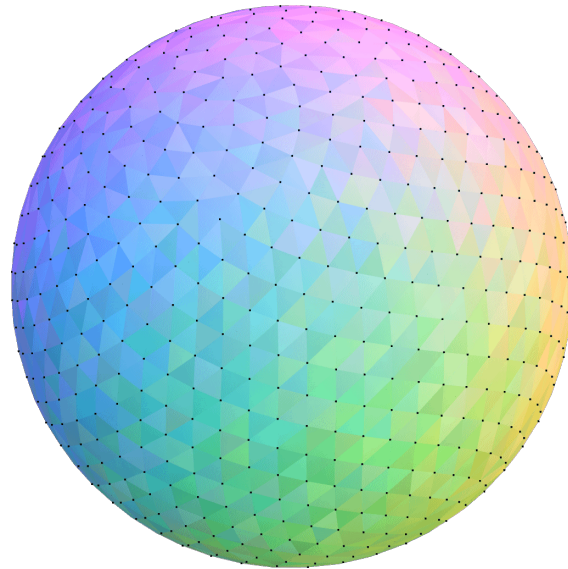


Striking Gold



Problem. Find a spherical triangulation whose chromatic polynomial has a root x within 0.1 of the value 2.6. (Try out some small triangulations!)

The **chromatic polynomial** $P_G(x)$ counts the number of ways to color the nodes of a graph G (made up of nodes and edges), so that no adjacent nodes are the same color, with x colors available to choose from. It is always a polynomial, so non-whole values of x can be plugged into it.

Look up how to calculate chromatic polynomials. Or, if you know a specific triangulation by name, you may look up its chromatic polynomial...