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PART II. COMPLEX MANIFOLDS[1]

The notion of a complex manifold is a natural outgrowth of that of a differentiable manifold. Its importance lies to a large extent in the fact that it includes as special cases the complex algebraic varieties and the Riemann surfaces and furnishes the geometrical basis for functions of several complex variables. Its development has led to clarifications of classical algebraic geometry and to new results and problems. Two notions from algebraic topology have so far played an essential rôle: sheaves (faisceaux) and fiber bundles. But the deeper problems on complex manifolds are not entirely topological.

1. **Topology of complex manifolds.** From the point of view of topology a fundamental problem would be to characterize the orientable manifolds of even dimension $2n$ which can be given a complex structure. But this is too difficult and, at least at the present moment, one