

# **Coordination Sequences, Planing Numbers, and Other Recent Sequences**

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**The OEIS Foundation,  
Highland Park, NJ**

**Experimental Math Seminar, Nov 15 2018**

# Outline

- Would not have become a mathematician w/o OEIS
- The succession question: need VP
- Claude Lenormand et le robot
- Coordination sequences
- Some recent sequences and unsolved problems

**From XXX Mar 19 2018, Subject: Reminiscence from a young mathematician**

**Dear Neil, The other day, I had the occasion to use the OEIS, something I haven't done in nearly 15 years (as an algebraic geometer, I don't seem to get that many opportunities)! I was so happy to see it thriving.**

**I wanted to relay a bit of nostalgia and my heartfelt thanks. Back in the late 1990s, I was a high school in Oregon. While I was interested in mathematics, I had no significant mathematically creative outlet (working class family and subpar mathematics instruction) until I discovered the OEIS in the course of trying to invent some puzzles for myself. I remember becoming a quite active contributor through the early 2000s, and eventually at one point, an editor. My experience with the OEIS, and the eventual intervention of one of my high school teachers, catalyzed my interest in studying mathematics, which I eventually did at XXX College. I went on to a Ph.D. at the University of XXX, various postdocs, and am currently at XXX.**

**I wanted to thank you for seriously engaging with an 18 year old kid, even though I likely submitted my fair share of mathematically immature sequences.**

**I doubt I would have become  
a mathematician without the OEIS!**

# The Succession Question

Looking for suggestions  
for Vice-President



(1926-)



(1948-)



(1982-)

(Hilarie Orman)

# Claude Lenormand

**When OEIS reached 100,000 sequences in  
2004 (also its 40th birthday),  
we had an e-party (see OEIS Wiki).  
28 countries, 150 guests.**

**(Today, 2018, 14 years later,  
320,000 sequences. 15,000/year.)**

**60 contributions from Lenormand, 2001-2003**



**Claude Lenormand**   
St-Thibault, France  
Aug 15, 2004  
**Longue vie à vous!**

# Claude Lenormand, letter, November 2003

## *Deux transformations sur les mots*

1. RUNS transform
2. “Raboter”, to plane

### 1. RUNS:

HHHTTHTTH... becomes 3212...

Kolakoski  $A_2 = 1,2,2,1,1,2,1,2,2,\dots$  is fixed (A mystery)

Golomb  $A_{1462} = 1,2,2,3,3,4,4,4,5,5,5,6,6,6,6,7,\dots$  is fixed

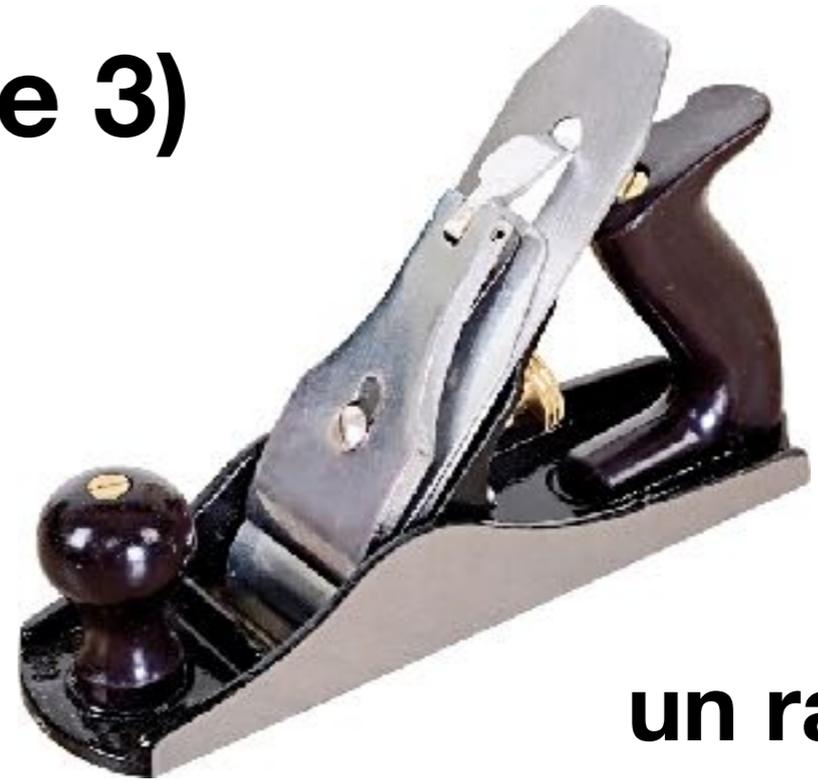
$$a(n) = \text{const.} \cdot n^{(\phi-1)} + \text{tiny}, \quad \phi = \text{golden ration}$$

Are the two hybrids  $A_{156253}$  and  $A_{321020}$  analyzable?

# Claude Lenormand (page 3)

## 2. “Raboter” or planing a word

Shorten each run of symbols by 1 term



un rabot

Golomb's 1 2 2 3 3 4 4 4 5 5 5 6 6 6 6 7 7 7 7 8 ...

becomes

2 3 4 4 5 5 6 6 6 7 7 7 8 ...

A319434. Formula?

# APPLY 'RABOTER' TO BINARY EXPANSION OF n

n    raboter(n)

0	ε
1	ε
10	ε
11	1
100	0
101	ε
110	1
111	3
1000	0
1001	0
1010	ε
1011	1
1100	2
1101	1
1110	3
1111	7
10000	0

ε = EMPTY STRING

$$\text{raboter}(n) = \begin{cases} A318921 & (\epsilon = 0) \\ A319429 & (\epsilon = -1) \end{cases}$$



# steps to reach ε : A319426  
= "cut-resistance of n"

Conjecture: For  $2^k \leq n < 2^{k+1}$ , average

$$\text{value of raboter}(n) = \left(\frac{3}{2}\right)^{k-1} - \frac{1}{2}$$

(A27649)

Conjecture 2: For  $2^k \leq n < 2^{k+1}$ ,

ave. cut-resistance of n is A189391(n)

and  $\sim \sqrt{\frac{8n}{\pi}}$

# Claude Lenormand (page 4)

**The inverse operation: lengthen all runs by 1**

**12 = 1100 becomes 111000 = 56**

**A175046 says what happens to  $n$  (Leroy Quet, 2009)**

**3,12,7,24,51,...**

**This is an inverse to raboter.**

**Theorem:  $\text{expand}(n) \leq (9n^2 + 12n)/5$   
with  $=$  iff  $n = 101010\dots10$  in binary  
(me, proved by Maximilian Hasler)**

(Chai Wah Wu,  
arXiv, recent)

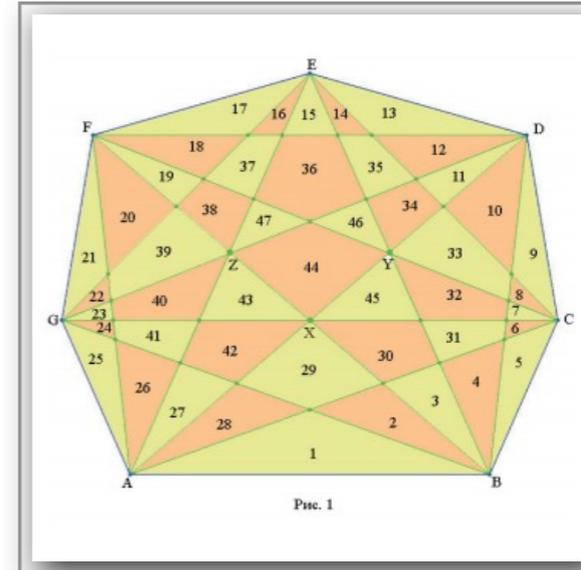
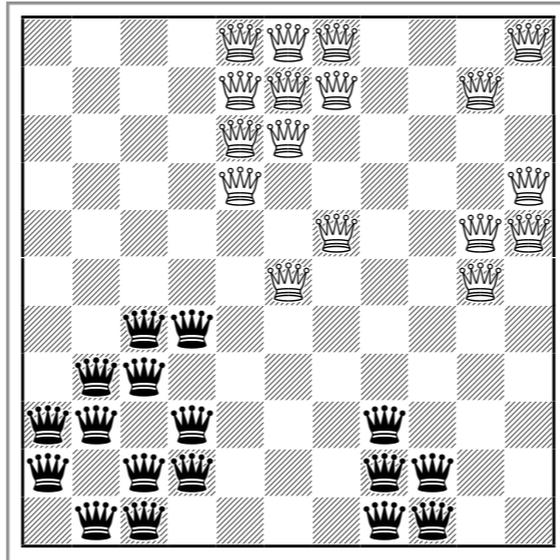
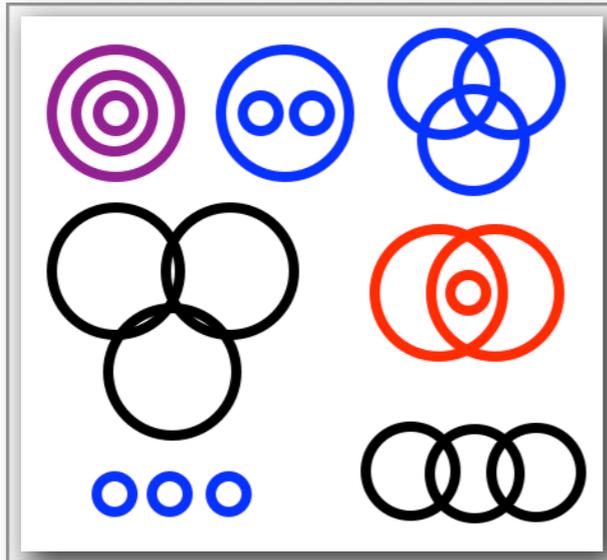
**Conjecture: Average of  $\text{expand}(n)$  for  $n < 2^k$  is  $2^k(4.3^{k-1})$**

**PLAY THE  
DIRGE**

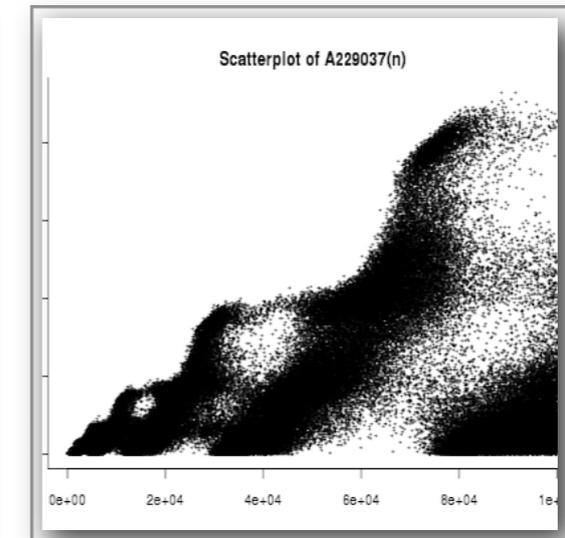
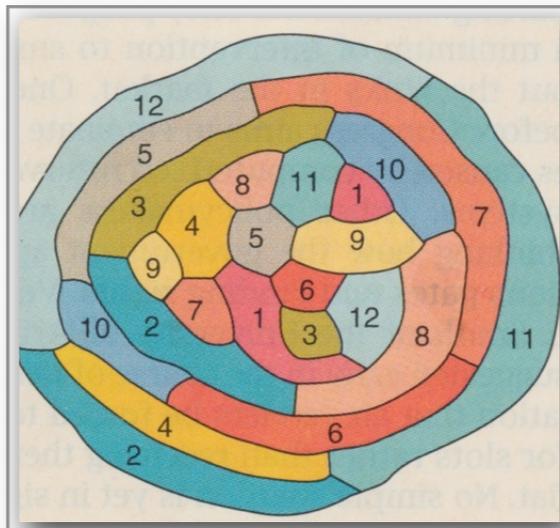
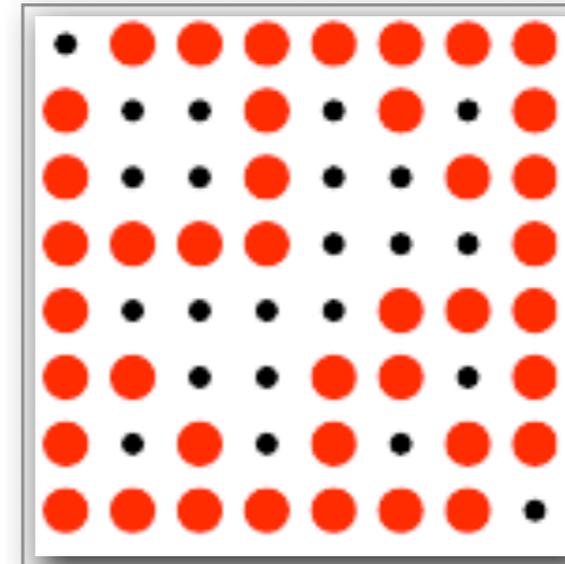
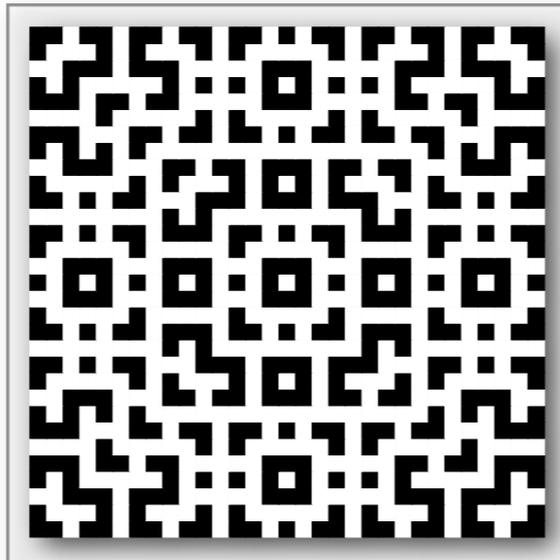
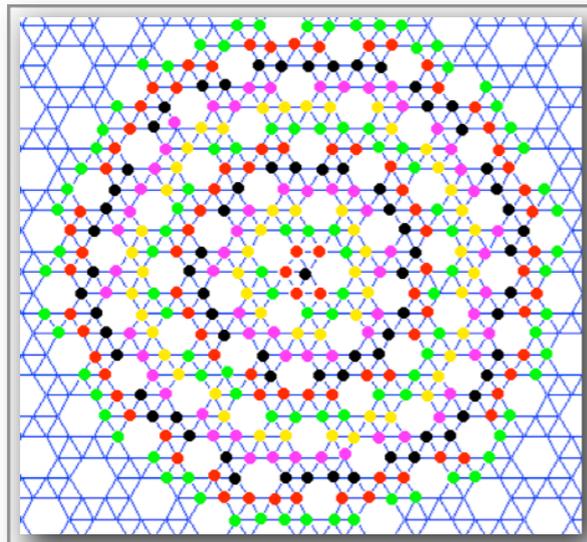
# **Coordination Sequences**

The poster, on the OEIS Foundation web site, <http://oeisf.org>

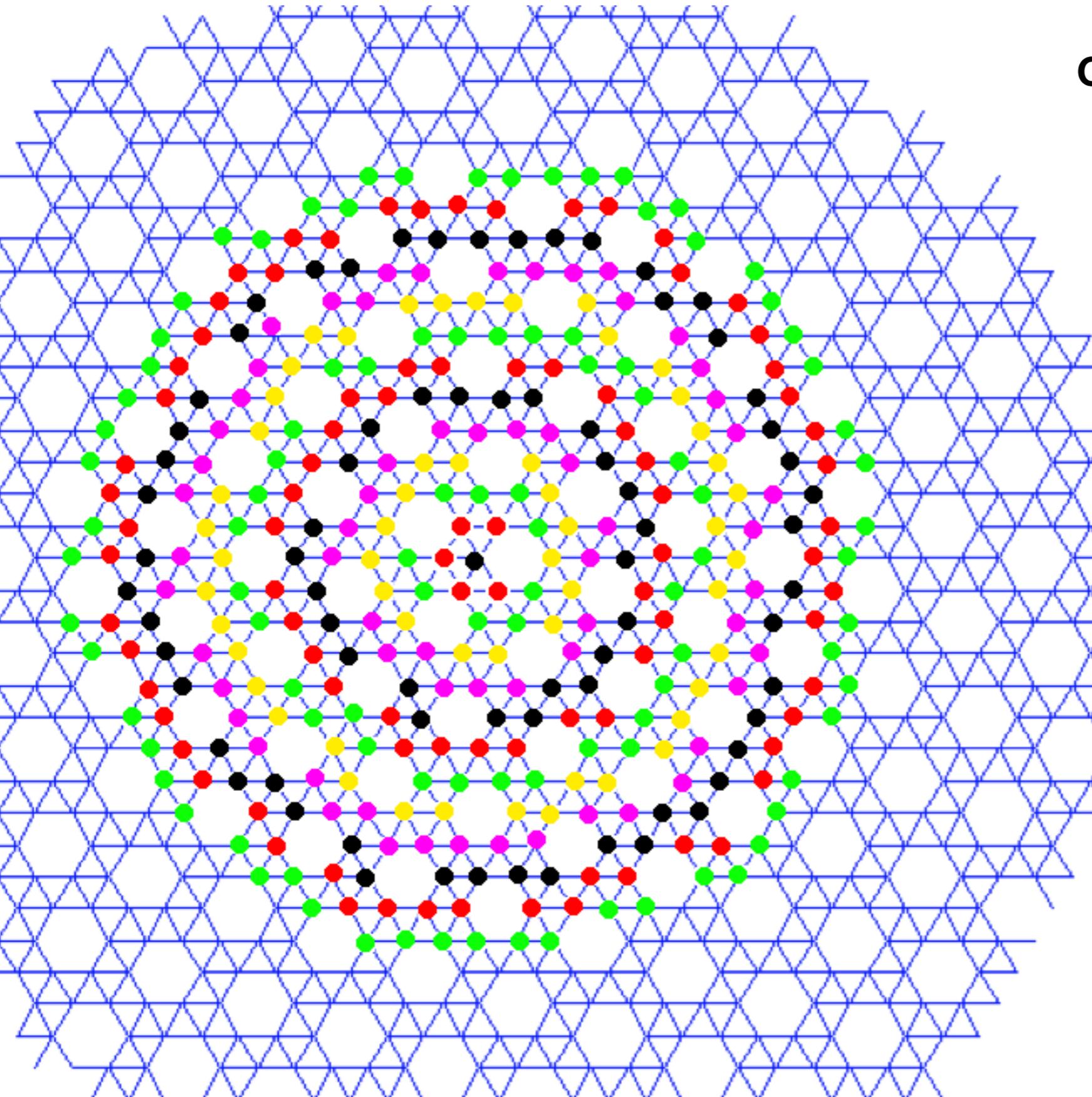
# OEIS.org



A250120



# The 3.3.3.3.6 uniform tiling (A250120)



Coordination sequence  
1,5,9,15,19,...

Conjecture  
 $a(n+5)=a(n)+24$   
for  $n > 2$

# Coordination Sequences

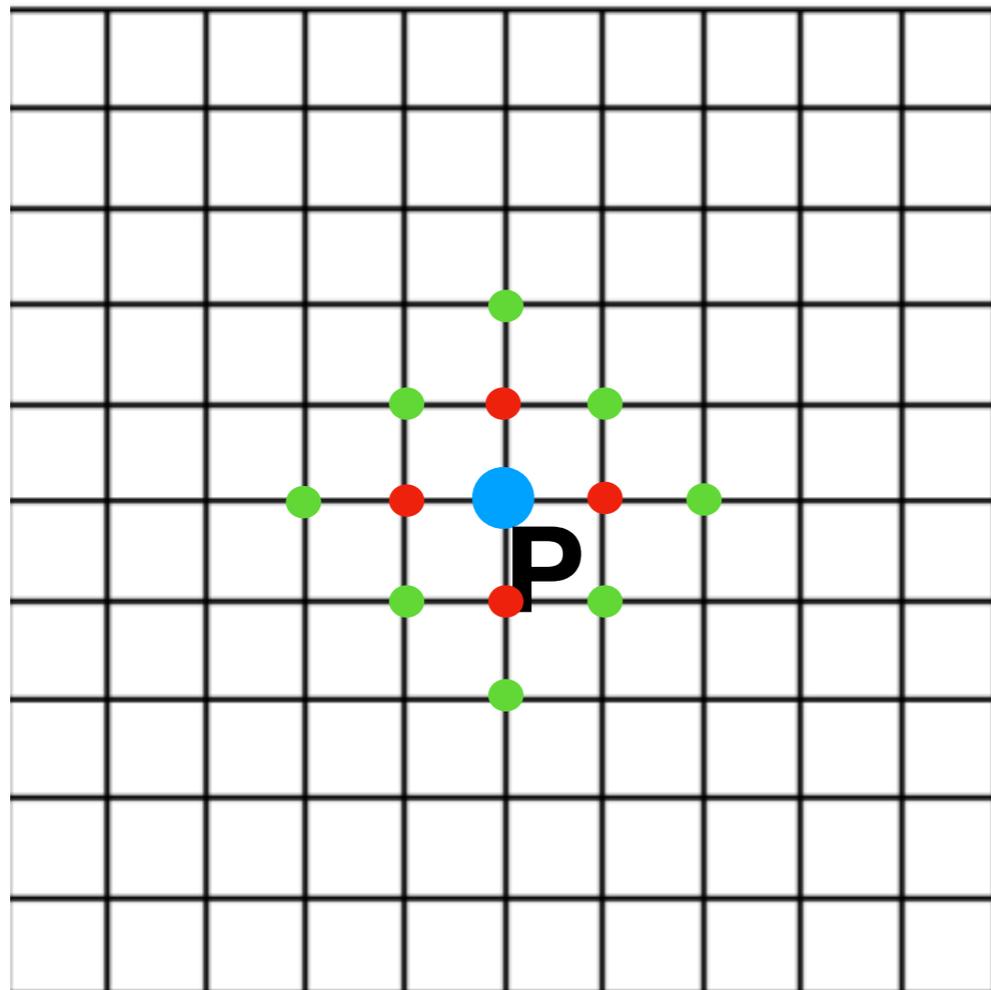
Joint work with Chaim Goodman-Strauss

With thanks to Jean-Guillaume Eon, Brian Galebach, Joseph Myers, Davide Proserpio, Rémy Sigrist, Allan Wechsler, and others

**Definition.**  $G = \text{graph}$ ,  $P = \text{node}$ ,  
the coordination sequence w.r.t  $P$ :

$a(n) = \text{number of nodes at edge-distance } n \text{ from } P$

**G**

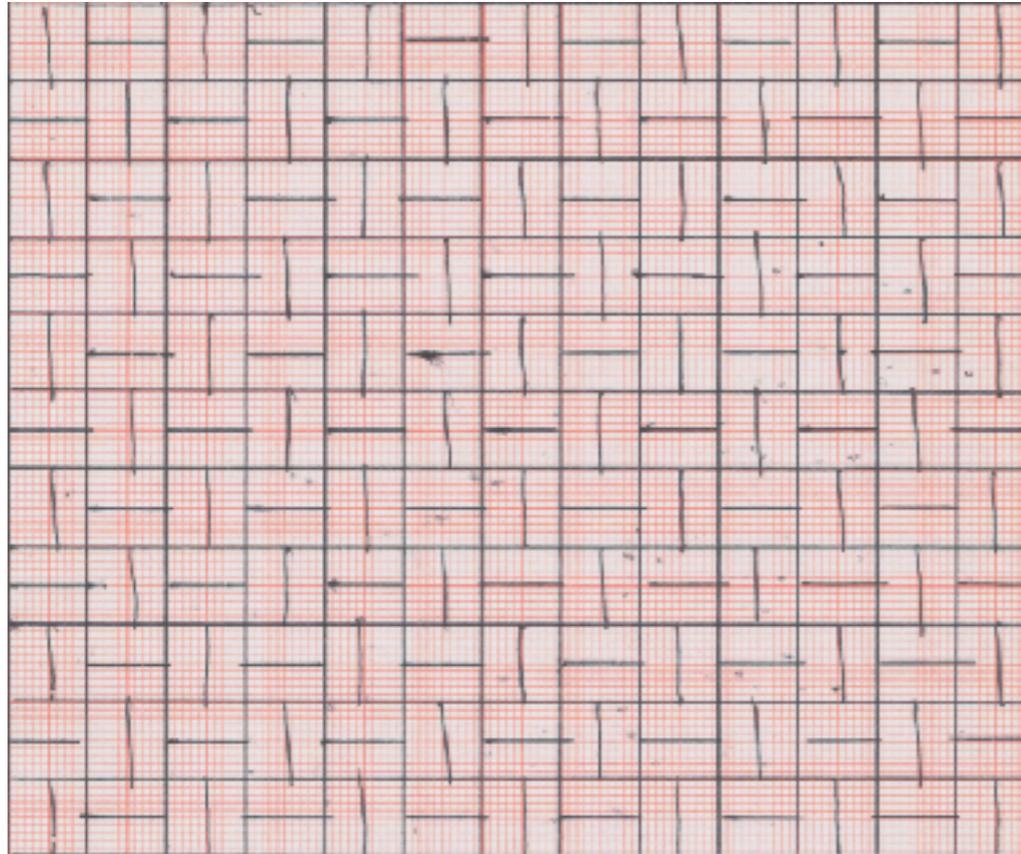


**A8574**

CS is 1, 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, ...

$$\text{G.f.} = (1+2x+2x^2+2x^3+\dots)^2$$

# Coordination sequences useful for identifying graphs, tilings, crystals, etc.



**Two kinds of vertices:**

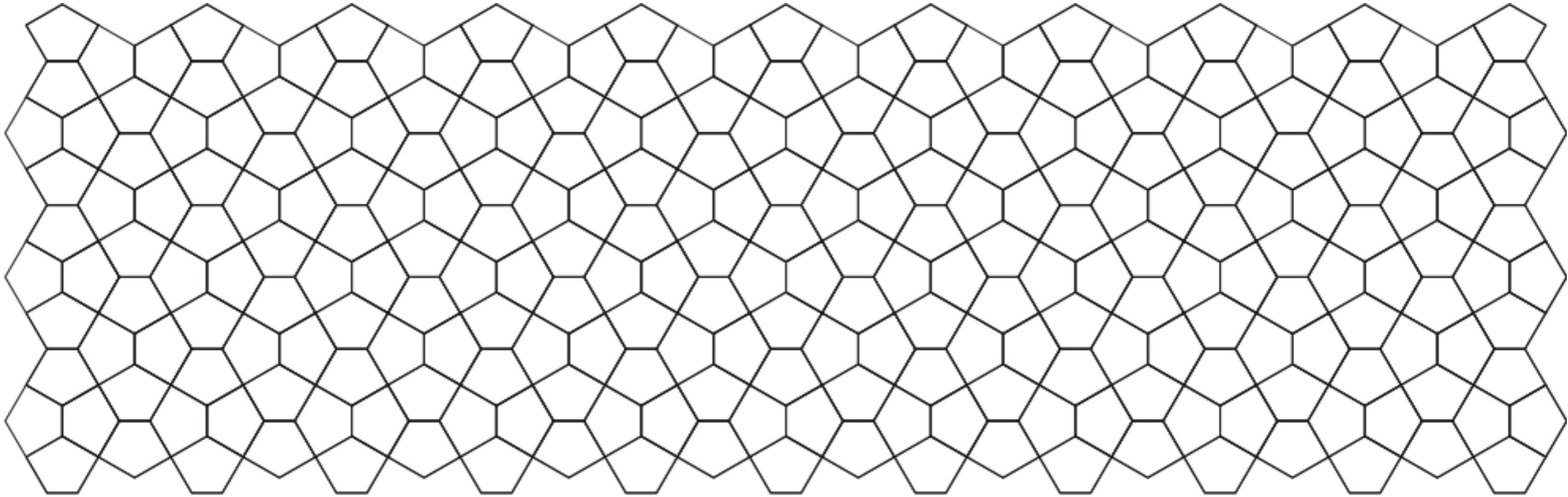
**Degree 4:** 1, 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, ...

**Degree 3:** 1, 3, 8, 12, 15, 20, 25, 28, ...

**and looking them up in the OEIS leads to →**

**Brick pattern, Johnson Park, Piscataway, NJ**

# The Cairo Tiling



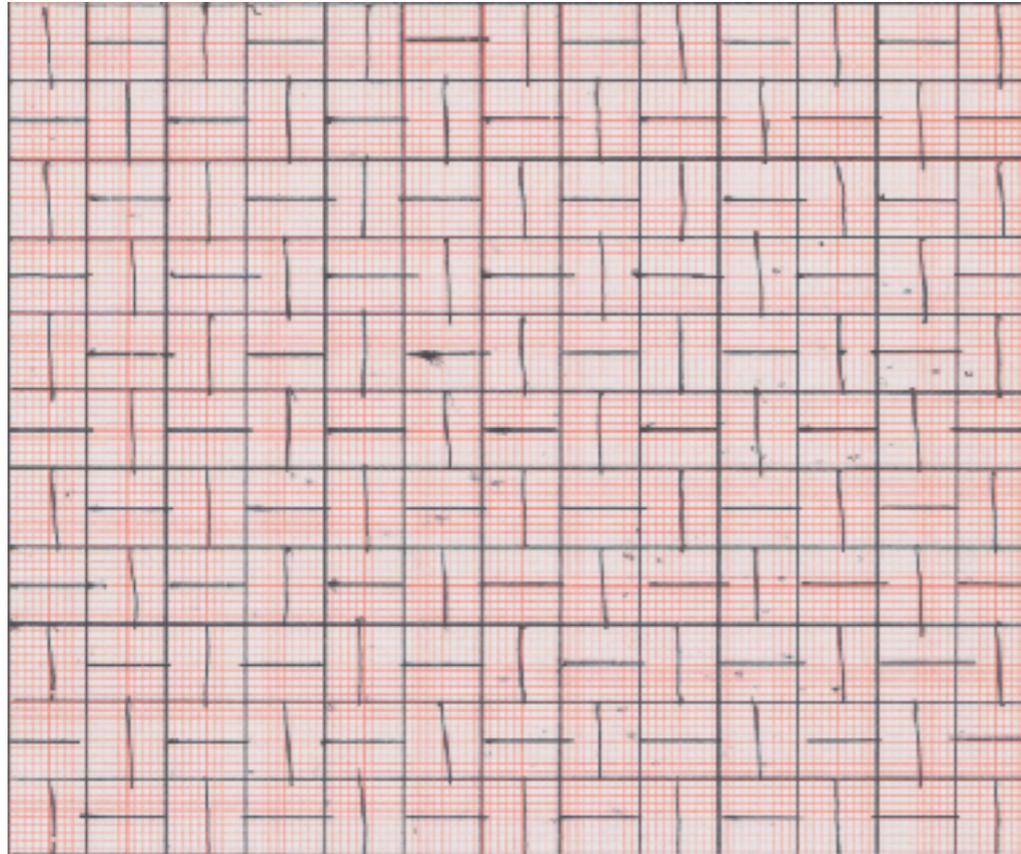
**Two kinds of vertices:**

**Degree 4:** 1, 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 28, ..., same as square grid! Why? **A8574**

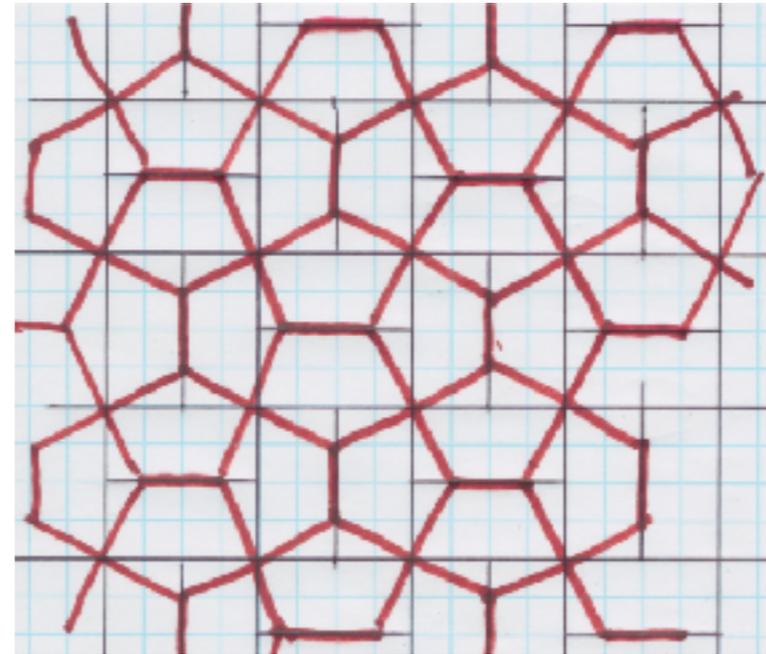
**Degree 3:** 1, 3, 8, 12, 15, 20, 25, 28, ... **A296368**

**Such a simple fact should have a simple proof,  
which led Chaim Goodman-Strauss and me to →**

**Shorten all the bisecting lines by 50%**



**Brick pattern, Johnson Park, Piscataway, NJ**



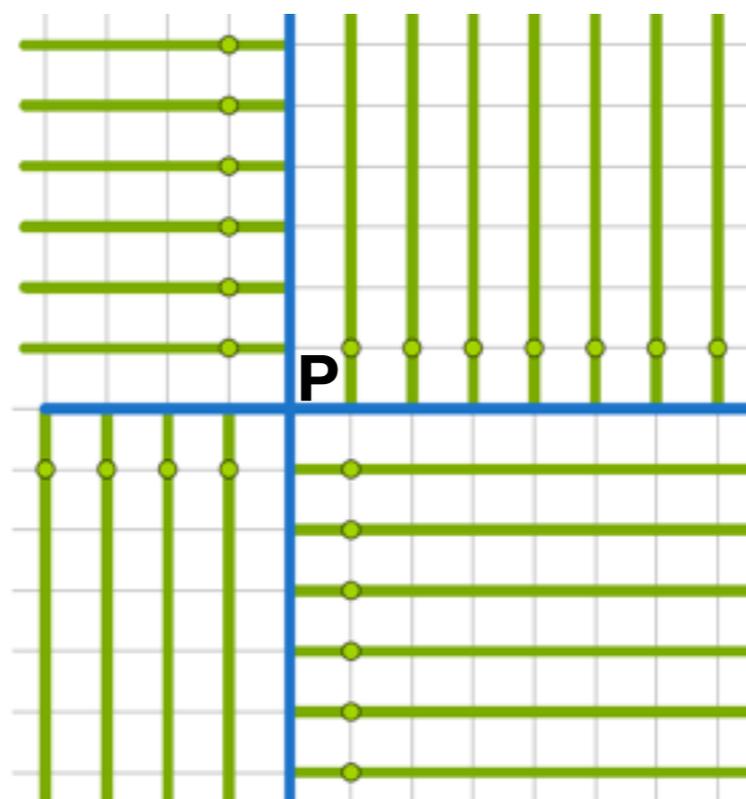
**Same graph as Cairo tiling!**

# The Coloring Book Method for Finding Coordination Sequences

(C.G.-S. and NJAS, Acta Cryst. A, to appear)

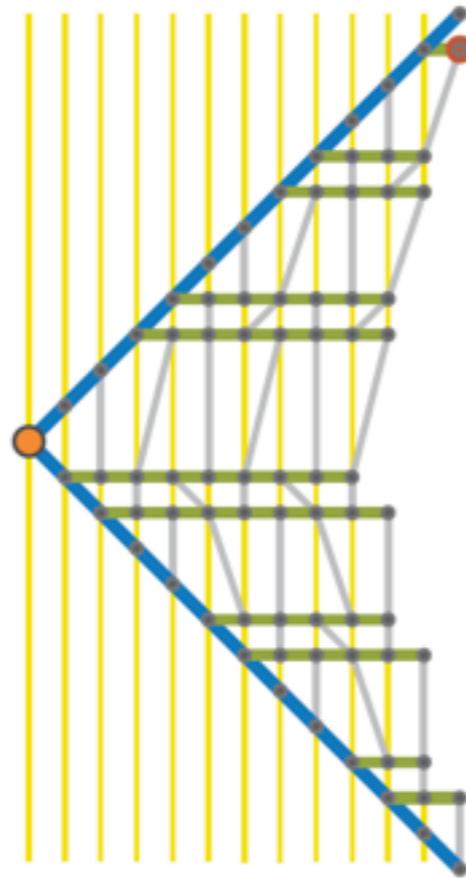
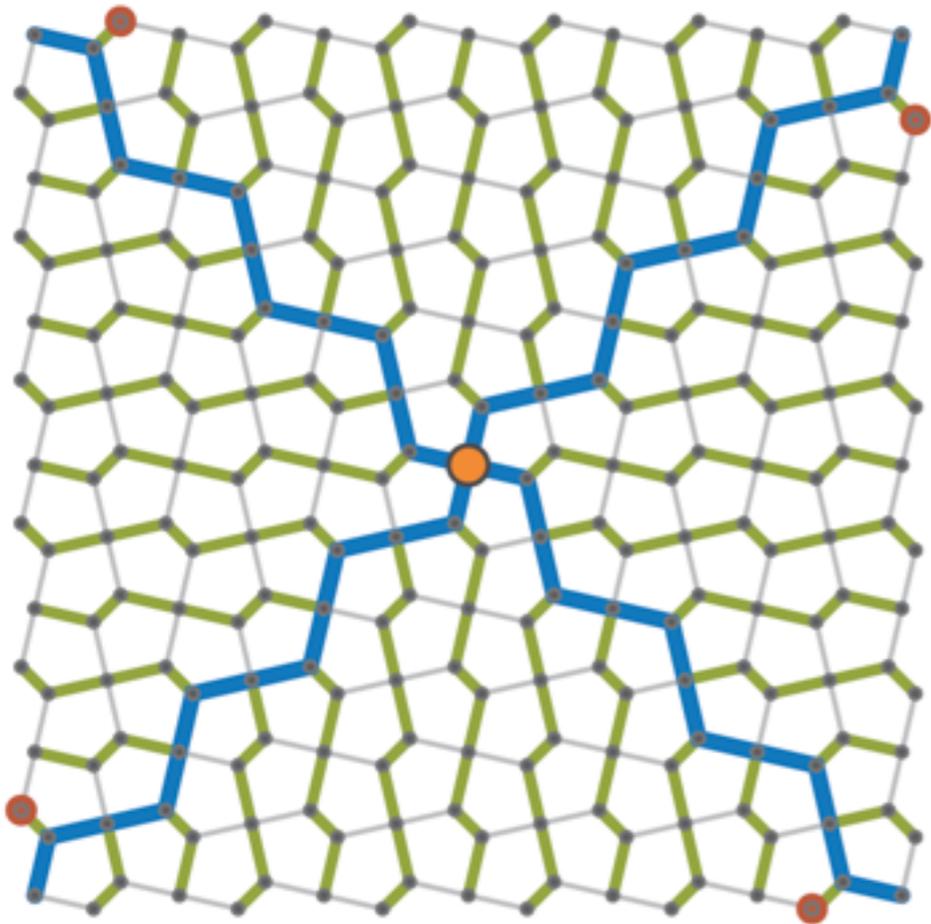
Find a subgraph H such that

- H is connected, meets every node
- Paths in H from node to base P are minimal
- H consists of **trunks**, **branches**, and twigs
- It is easy to see that all paths are minimal
- and to count nodes at distance n from base P



Square grid:  $a(n) = 4n$

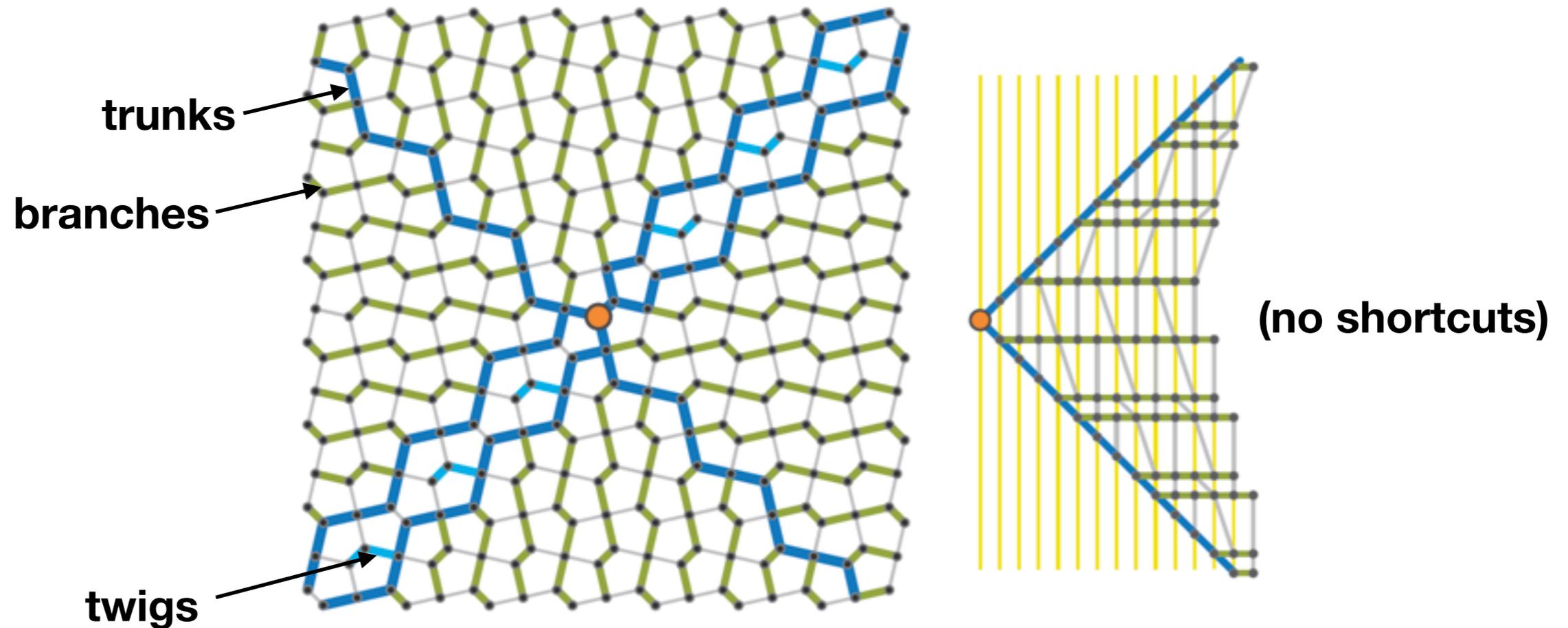
# Trunks and Branches for Cairo tiling, tetravalent node



Sector redrawn to show that there are **no shortcuts**

So  $a(n) = 4n$ , same as for square grid

# Trunks and Branches for Cairo tiling, trivalent node

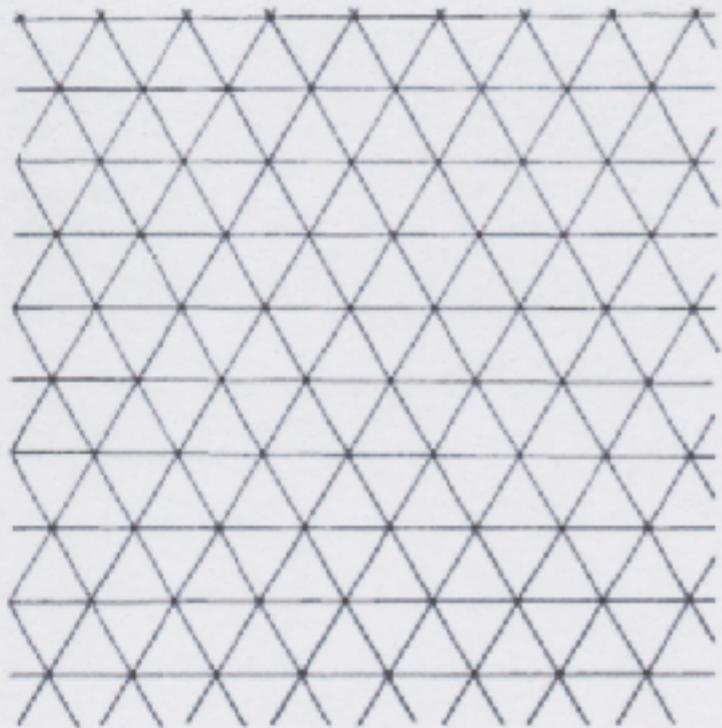


Theorem:  $a(0)=1$ ,  $a(1)=3$ ,  $a(2)=8$ , then

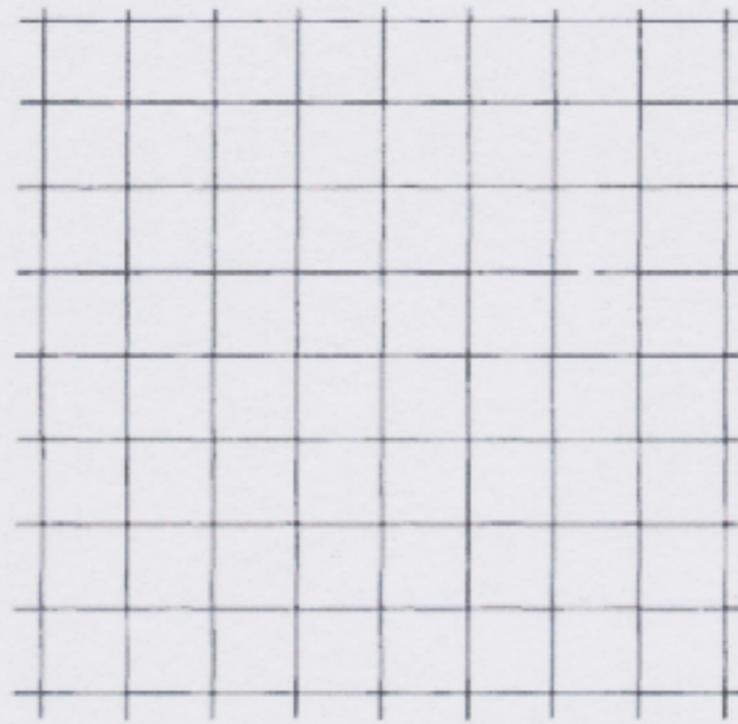
$a(n)=4n$  ( $n$  odd),  $4n-1$  ( $n=0 \pmod{4}$ ),  $4n+1$  ( $n=2 \pmod{4}$ )

**A296368**

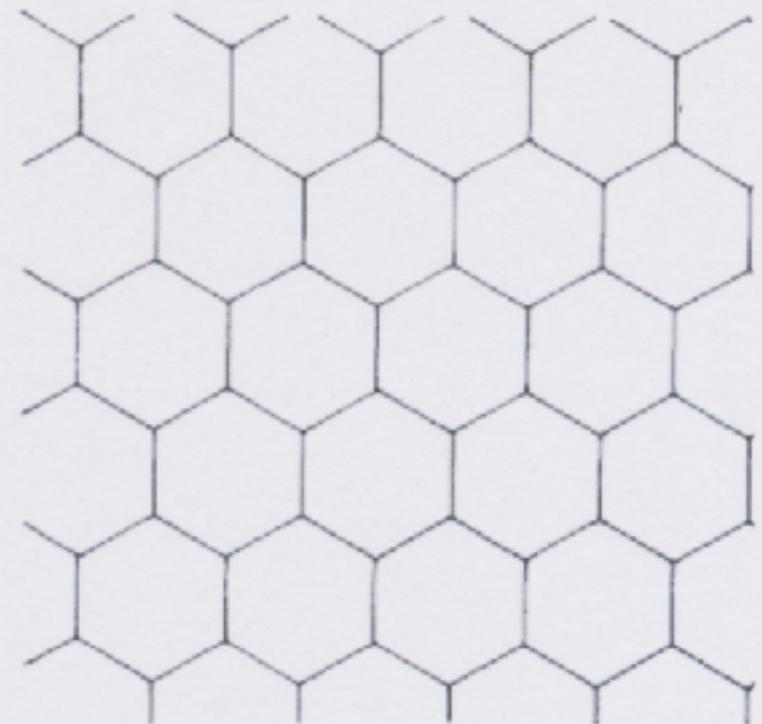
# The 11 uniform or Archimedean tilings (part 1)



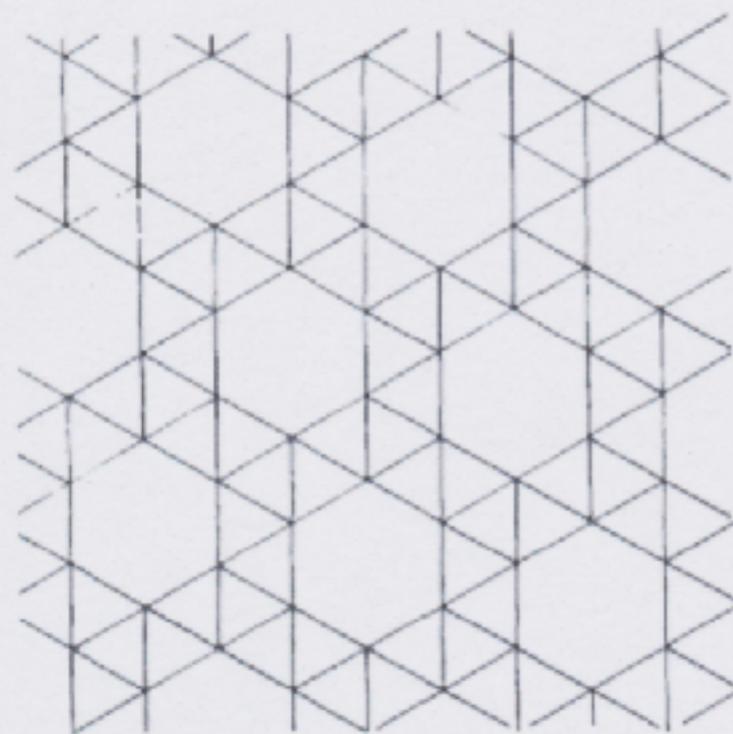
$3^6$  ~~(3<sup>6</sup>)~~ A8458



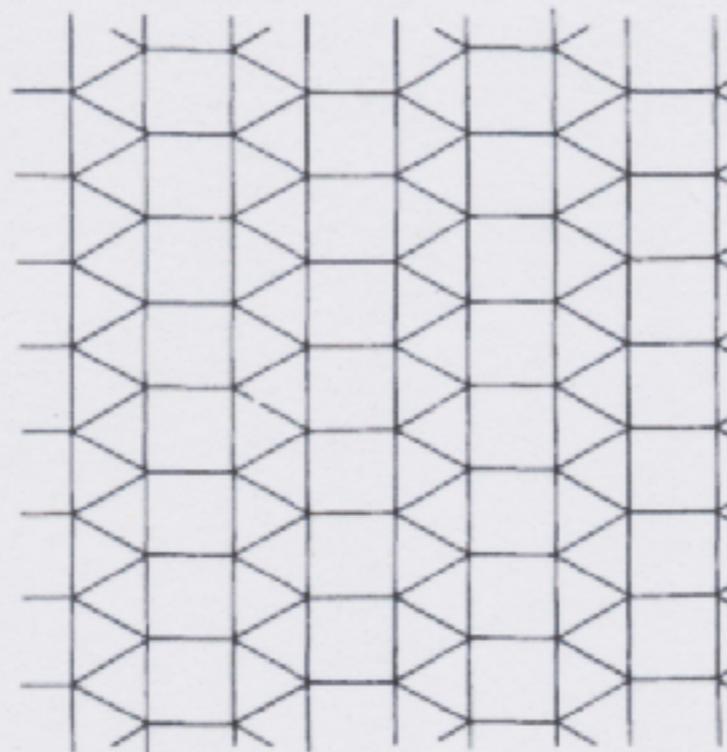
$(4^4)$  A8574



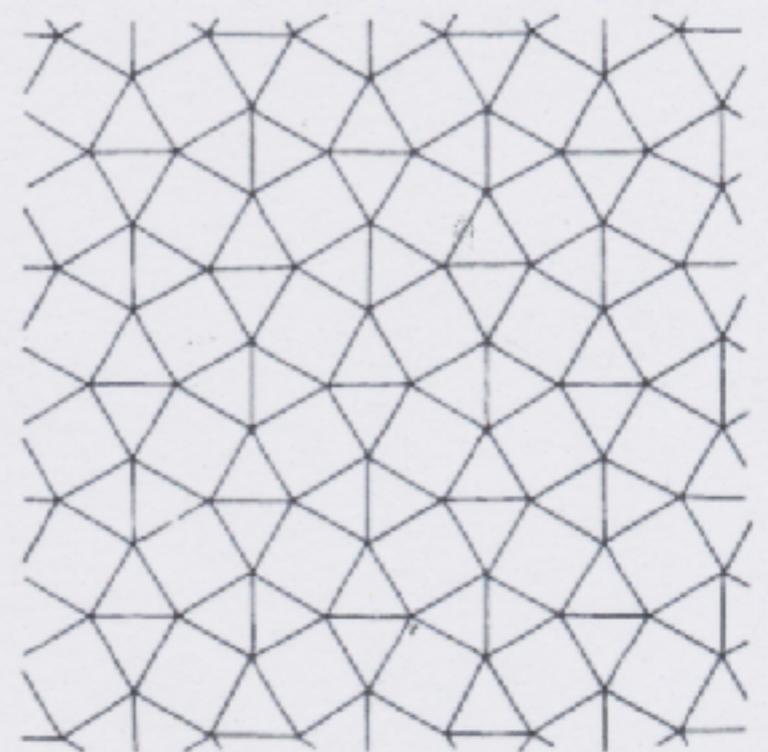
$(6^3)$  A8486



$(3^4 \cdot 6)$  A250120

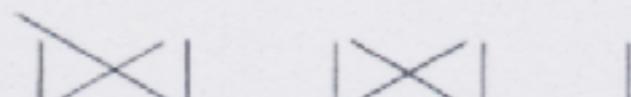
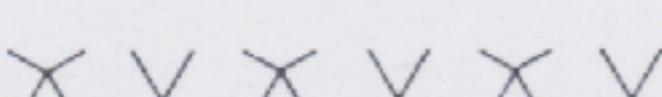


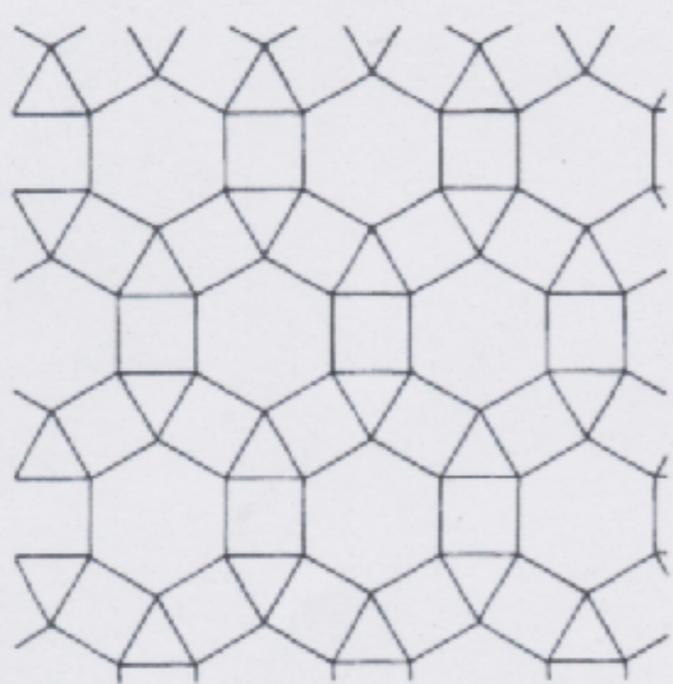
$(3^3 \cdot 4^2)$  A8706



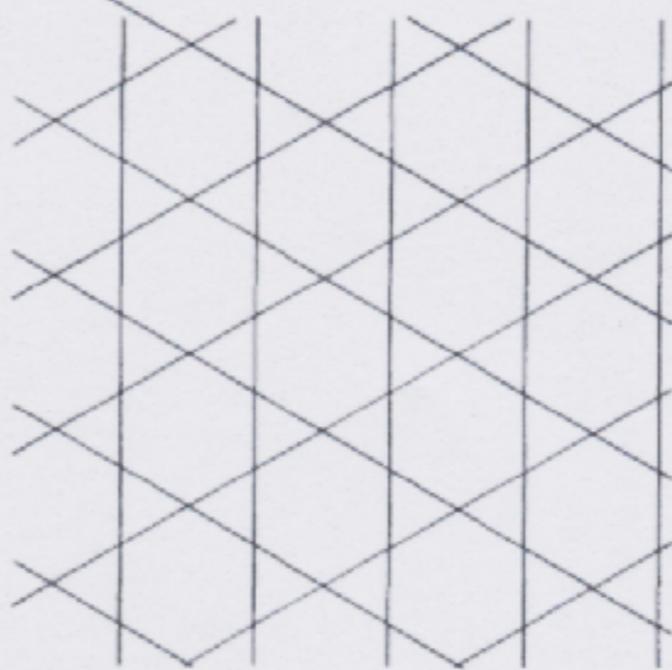
$(3^2 \cdot 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 4)$  A219529

Dual  
to  
Cairo

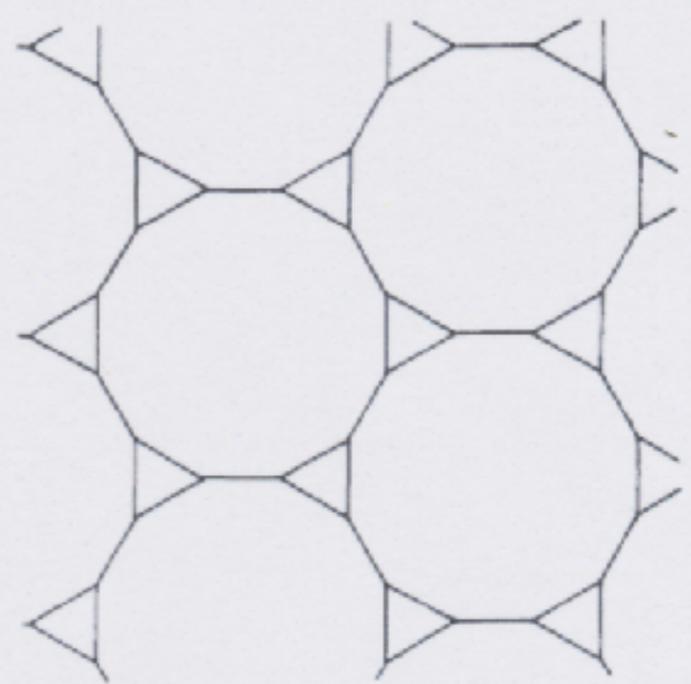




(3.4.6.4) A 8574  
again



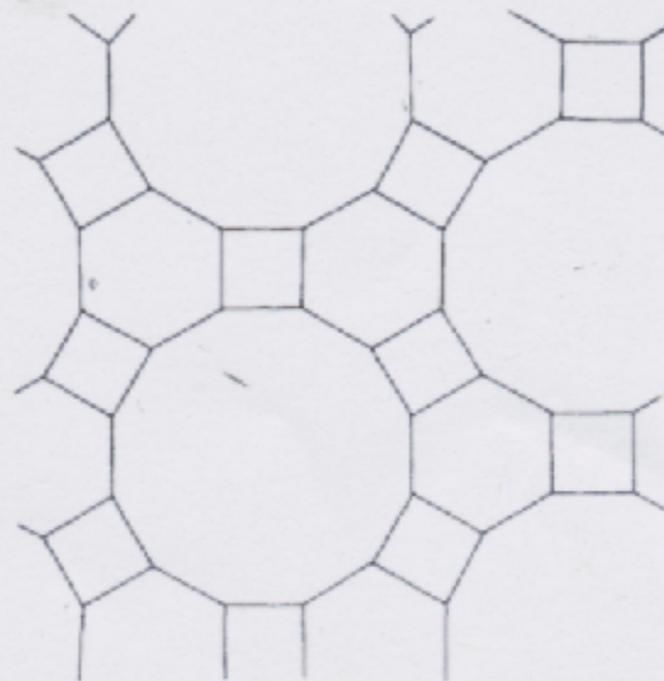
(3.6.3.6) A 8579



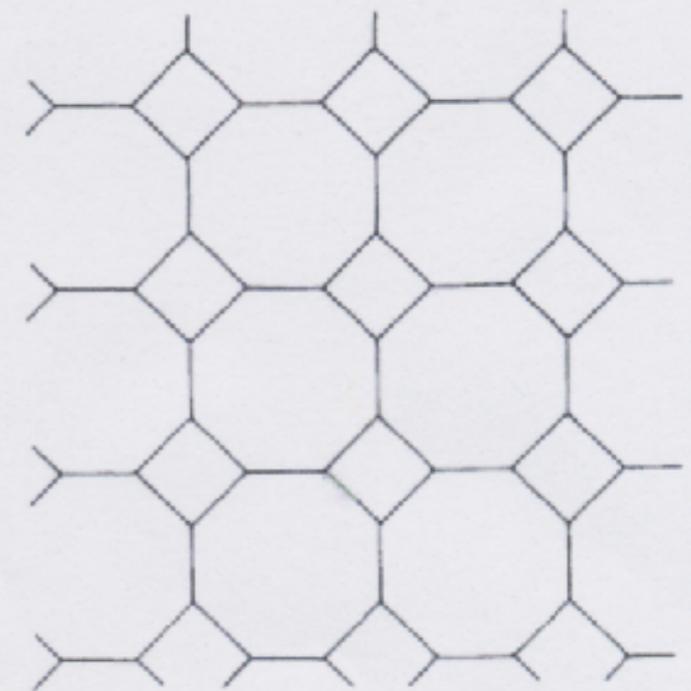
(3.12<sup>2</sup>) A 25012 2

The 11 distinct types of Archimedean tilings of the plane. The tiling of type (3<sup>4</sup>.6) exists in two mirror-symmetric (enantiomorphic) forms.

FIGURE 7



(4.6.12) A 72154



(4.8<sup>2</sup>) A 8576

## The 11 uniform or Archimedean tilings (part 2)

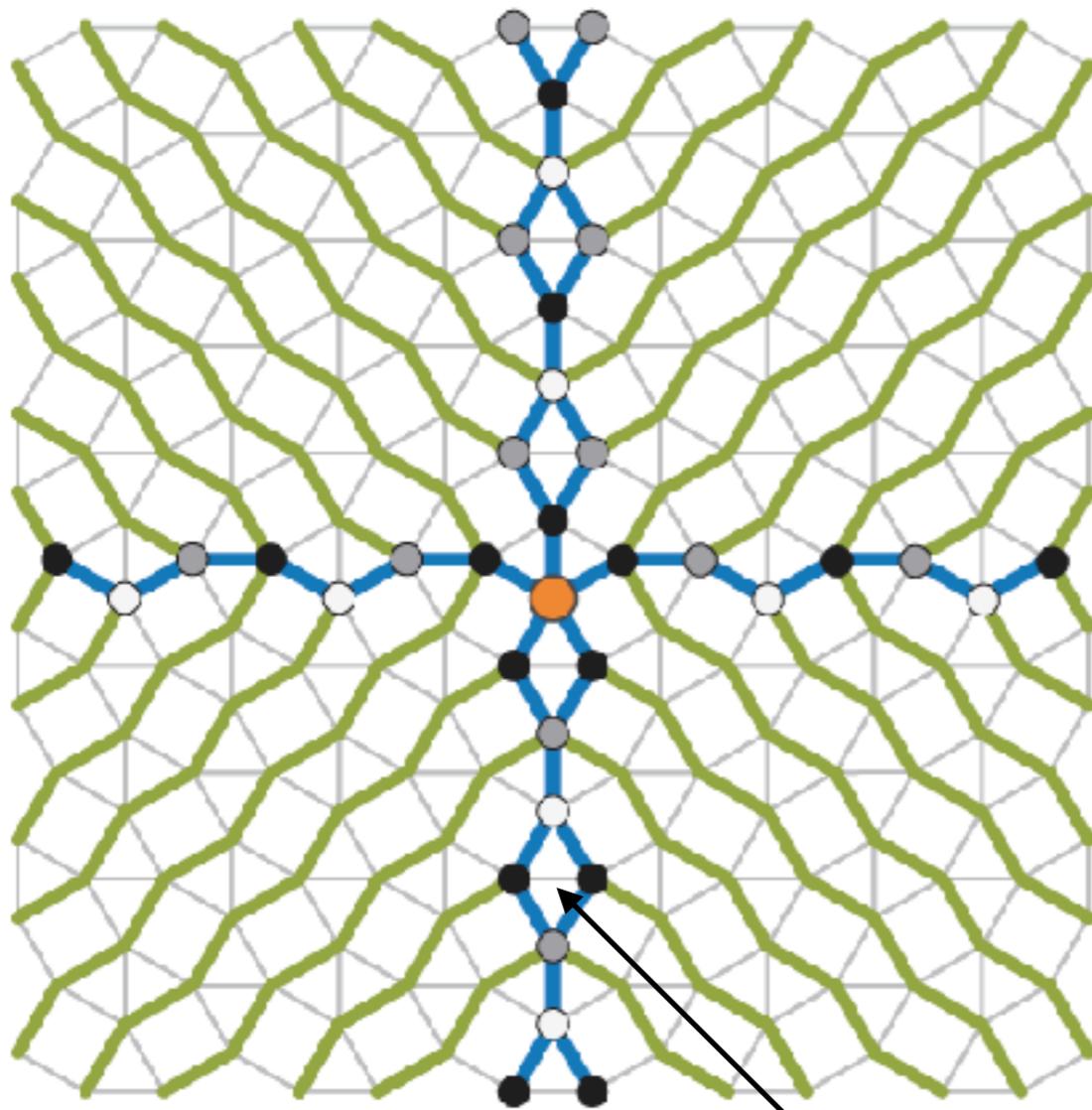
Branko Grünbaum and G. C. Shephard, **Tilings** and Patterns.

**burl**

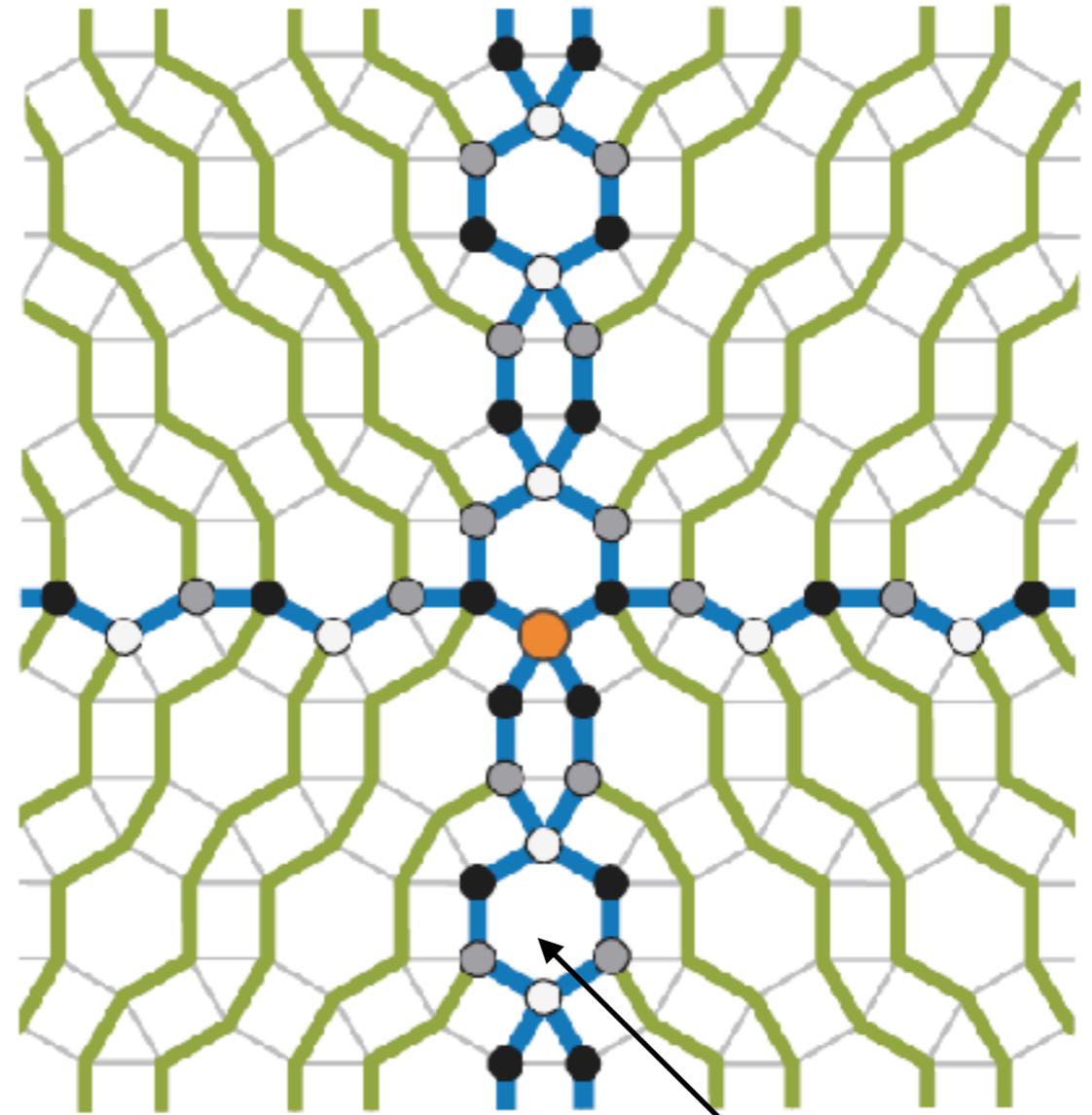


**From Wikipedia**

# Trunks and Branches for 2 of the 11 Uniform Tilings



**3.3.4.3.4 (dual to Cairo), A219529**



**3.4.6.4, A8574 again!**

# The $k$ -uniform tilings of the plane

(Tiles are regular polygons, group has  $k$  orbits on nodes.)

Brian Galebach, 2002, [A68599](#):

k:	1	2	3	4	5	6
#:	11	20	61	151	332	673

No. of coord. seqs. = 6536, all in OEIS

## Stages in studying coord. seqs.:

- Compute initial terms
- Look up in OEIS
- Guess generating function
- Prove g.f. is correct (done for  $k=1$ , partly for  $k=2$ )

Duals done only for  $k=1, 2$ ?

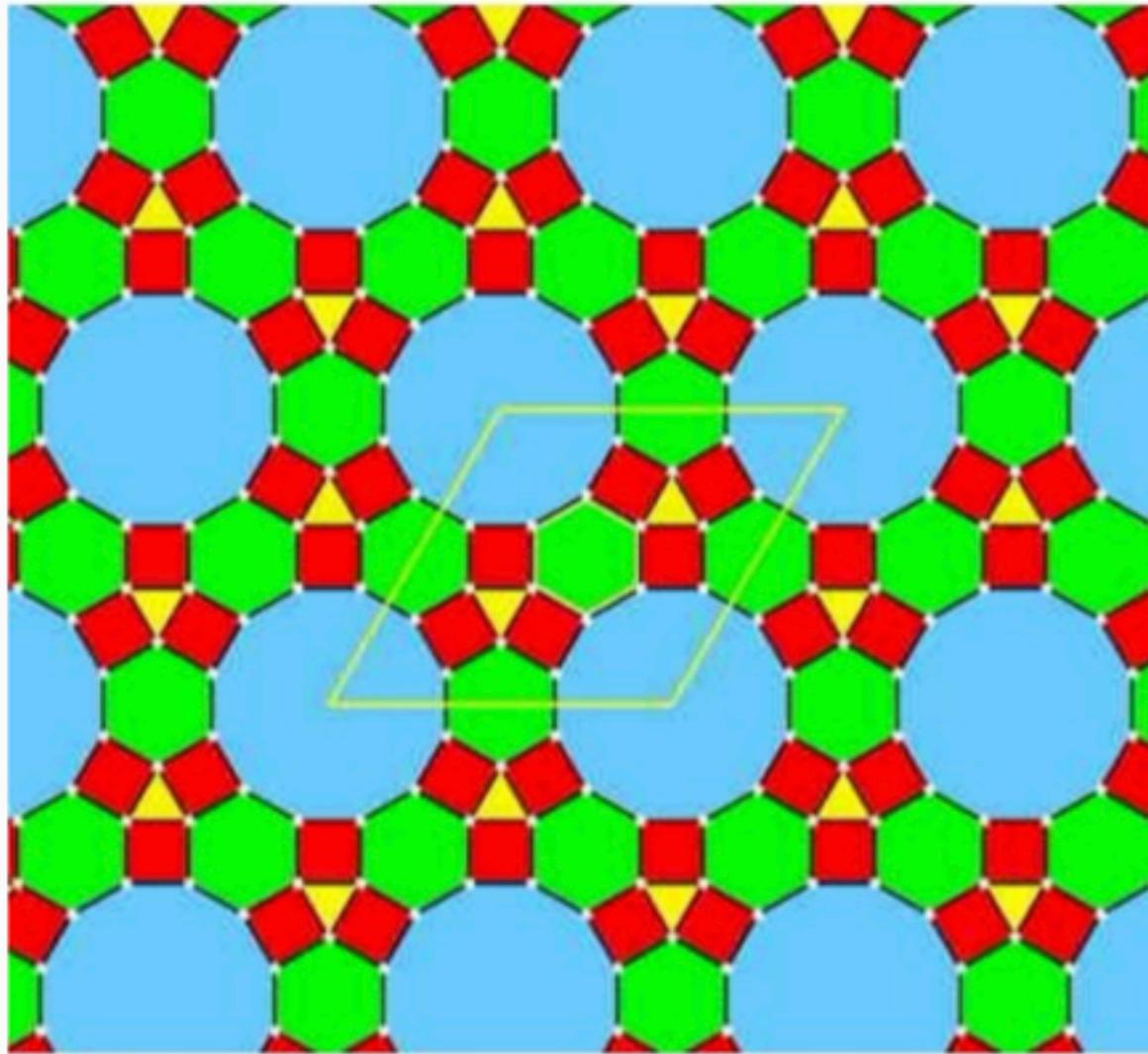
The “coloring book” approach is a “method”, not yet an “algorithm”  
It would be nice to automate it.

# RCSR

## A 2-uniform tiling with only conjectured g.f.'s

Type (3.4.6.4, 4.6.12), name = krt net

krt



Have 1000 terms of coord. seqs.  
(Joseph Myers)

For 4.6.12 node, g.f. appears to be

$$\frac{1 + x^2 + 2x^5 - 2x^6 + 2x^7 - x^8}{(1 - x)^2(1 - x + x^2)}$$

**A265035**

vertex	CS <sub>1</sub>	CS <sub>2</sub>	CS <sub>3</sub>	CS <sub>4</sub>	CS <sub>5</sub>	CS <sub>6</sub>	CS <sub>7</sub>	CS <sub>8</sub>	CS <sub>9</sub>	CS <sub>10</sub>	cum <sub>10</sub>	vertex symbol
V1	4	6	7	10	14	20	24	24	23	26	159	3.4.6.4
V2	3	6	9	11	14	17	21	25	28	30	165	4.6.12



**And there are a LOT of articles about coord. seqs,  
many web sites, ...**

**Our “Coloring Book” paper has extensive bibliography**

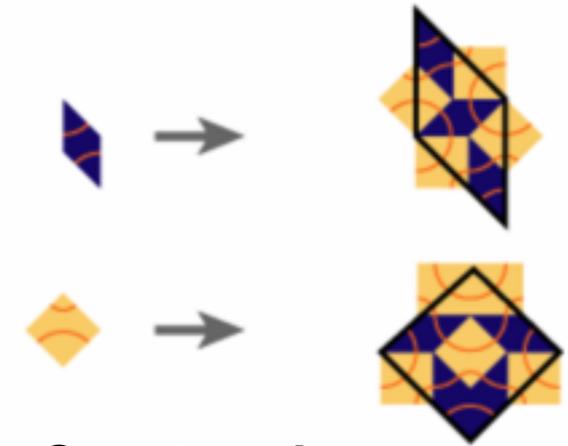
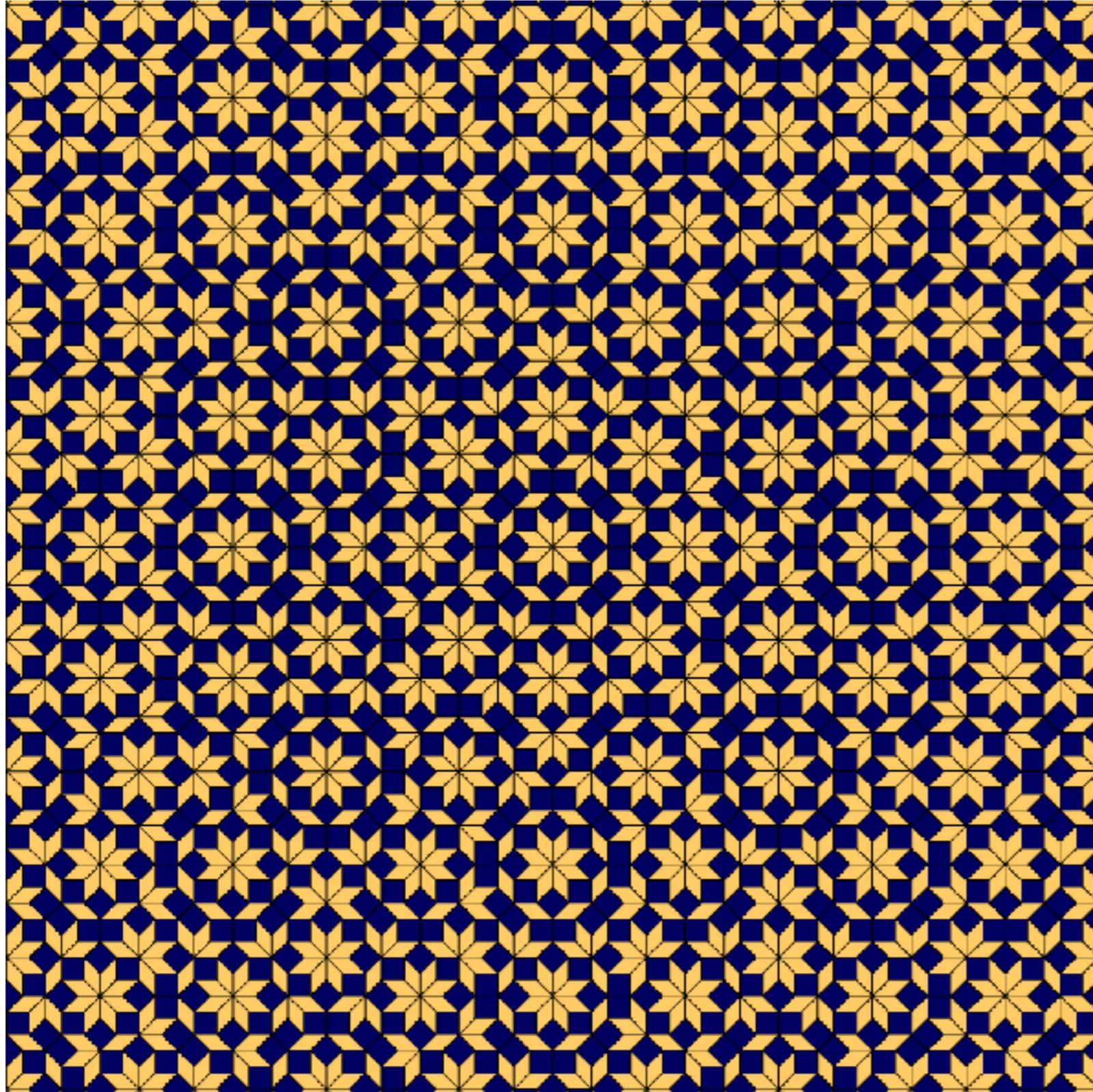
**See especially the [RCSR](#) (Reticular Chemistry Structure Resource) of O’Keeffe et al.) and [ToposPro](#) (Blatov et al.) web sites**

**Conjecture: The coord. seq. of a periodic tiling of d-dimensional Euclidean space by polytopes always has a rational generating function.**

**What about aperiodic tilings?**

**There is recent work by Anton Shutov and Andrey Maleev,  
and Rémy Sigrist**

**An example of an Ammann-Beenker tiling with a unique vertex  
with global 8-fold symmetry**



**Construction**

**Rémy Sigrist, A303981:**

**1, 8, 16, 32, 32, 40, 48, ...**

**(900 terms, no g.f. known)**

# Coordination Sequences (cont.)

## Limit of contour lines

There is work on the limiting shape of the contour lines in a tiling by Vladimir Zhuravlev and independently by Shigeki Akiyama (arXiv:1707.02373)

**Interesting topic for future work!**

# Some Recent Sequences and Unsolved Problems

**For example, any recent submission by  
Eric Angelini or Rémy Sigrist is worth studying**

**Typical questions to ask:**

- **is the sequence infinite?**
- **does every number appear?**
- **is there a formula, recurrence, g.f.?**
- **how fast does it grow?**

# Eric Angelini's remove-repeated-digits operation

**Drop any digit from  $n$  that appears more than once**

1231, 1123, 123111, 11023 all become 23

Write 0 if nothing left.

**A320486** says what happens to  $n$ :

1, 2, 3, ..., 10, 0, 12, 13, ..., 21, 0, 23, ...

Get 0 with probability 1, so easy to analyze!

“Factorials” 1, 2, 6, 24, 120, 720, (5040) 54, 432, (3888) 3, 30, (330) 0

**A321008**

Start with  $n$ , and repeatedly square-and-delete:

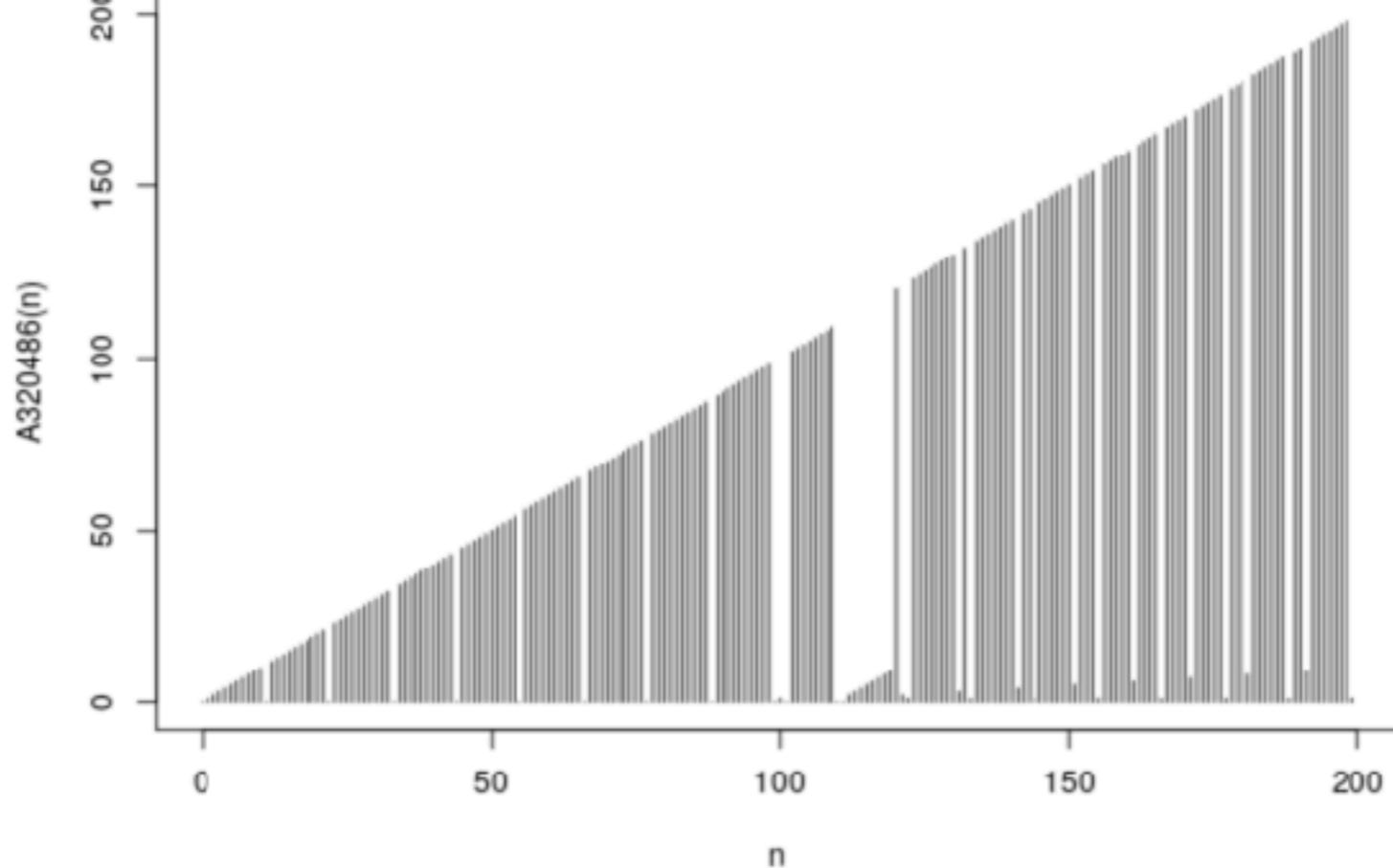
**Conjecture (Lars Blomberg)** : Reach one of 5 fixed points:

0, 1, 1465, 4376, 89476. (**A321010**)

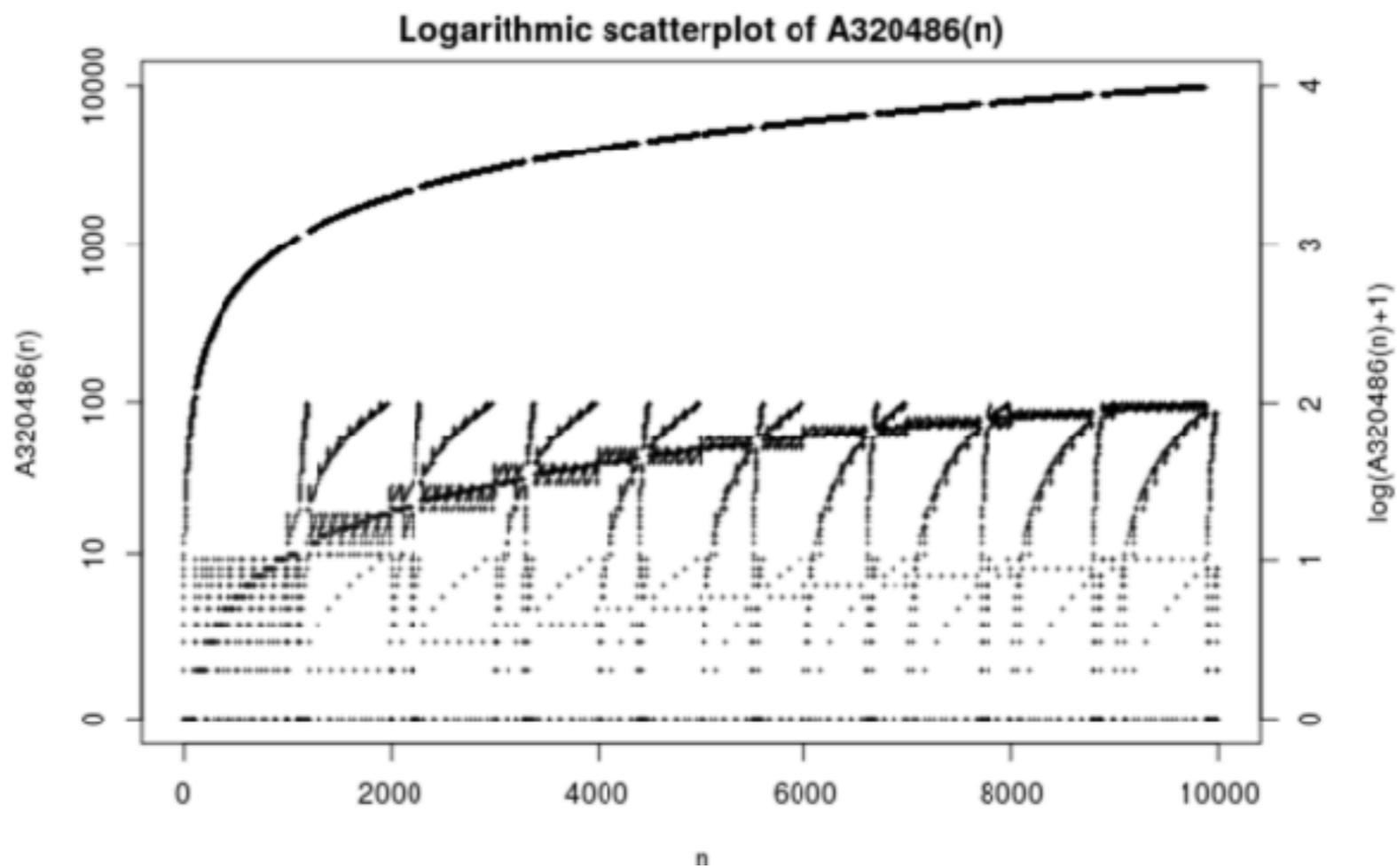
or one of two nontrivial loops

(1465 is a fixed point:  $1465^2 = 2146225 \rightarrow 1465$ )

Two plots of  
A320486,  
Angelini's  
Remove  
repeated  
digits  
from n



200 terms



Log plot  
of 10K terms

# Georg Fischer has been searching for duplicates, Many unsolved and solved problems!

**1** A045318 Primes  $p$  such that  $x^8 = 3$  has no solution mod  $p$ .  
A301916 Primes which divide numbers of the form  $3^k + 1$ .  
are almost the same, the terms  
in the latter but not in the former being A320481

2, 769, 1297, 6529, 7057, 8017, 8737, 12097, 12289. ...

The question is, what are these primes?

Solved by Don Reble, Oct 25 2018 and Richard Bumby, Nov 12 2018

**2** Are A027595 and A007212 the same?  
A027595 satisfies  $T^2(a)=a$ : given  $a_1 \leq a_2 \leq \dots$ , let  $b(n)$  = number of ways of  
partitioning  $n$  into parts from  $a_1, a_2, \dots$   
such that parts  $\equiv 0 \pmod{5}$   
do not occur more than once.

A007212 has similar definition, but w/o the mod 5 condition.

Either there is a mistake, or there is a theorem here!

# Many conjectured formulas from R. H. Hardin

Typical recent example (**A250352**):

How many lists  $x$  of length 3 with  $x(i)$  in  $[i, i+1, \dots, i+n]$   
and no term appearing more than twice in a list?

Examples:  $a(6)$  includes 2,4,6; 0,4,4; 1,7,7; ...

Empirical:  $a(n) = n^3 + 3n^2 + 2n + 2$

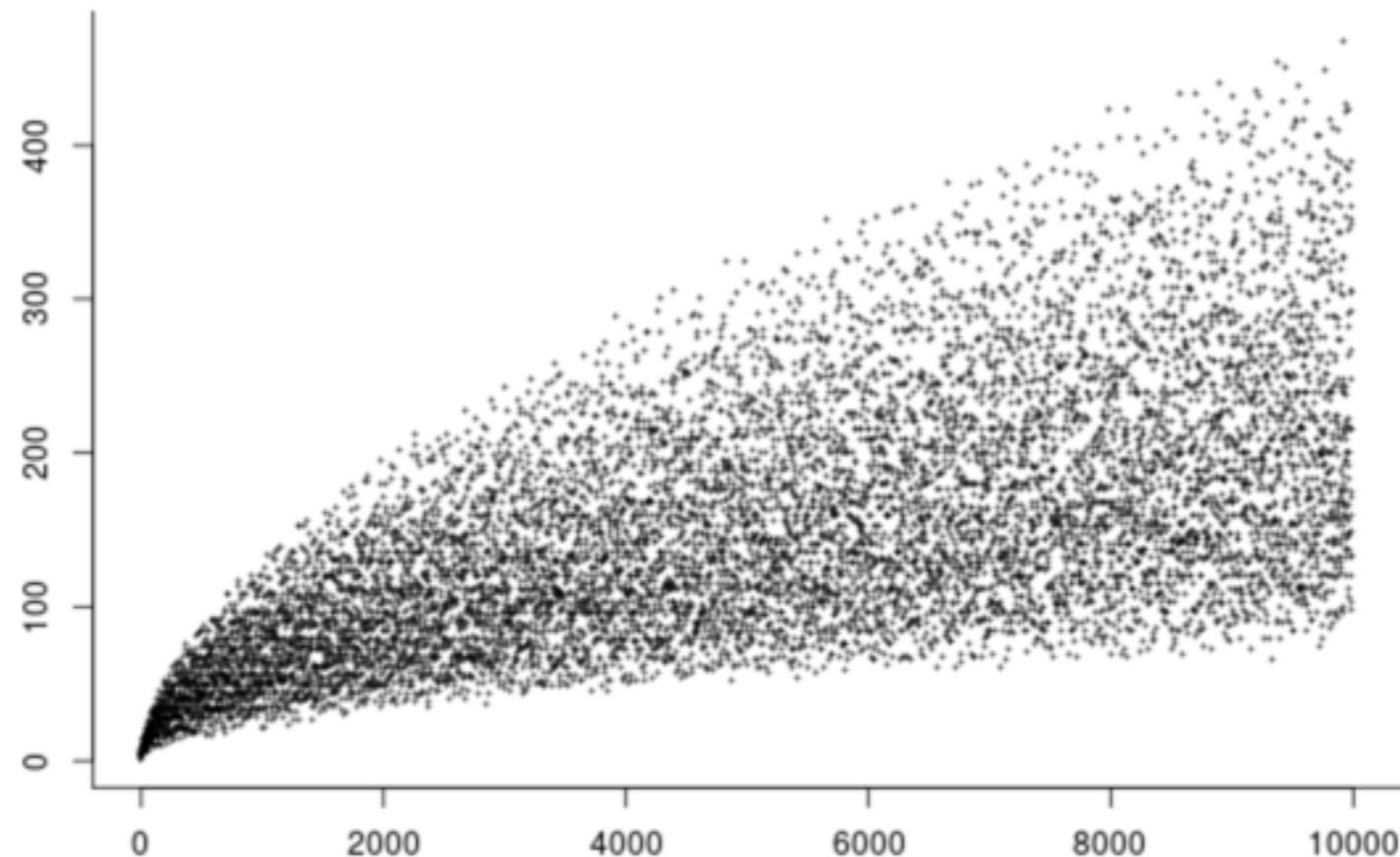
**Search for R. H. Hardin AND empirical**

# Allan Wechsler

**No. of partitions into parts that are consecutive,  
all parts singletons except the largest**

**A321440**, Nov 9 2018

**$a(9)=7$ :  $1^9, 12222, 1233, 234, 333, 45, 9$**



**WHY?**

**(Hint: Partitions into consec. parts = no. of odd divisors)**

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