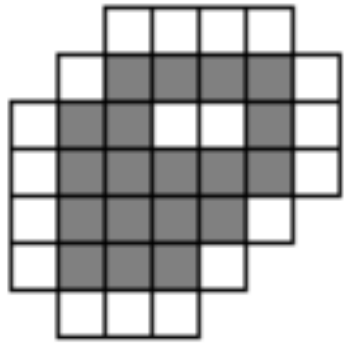


On Minimal-Perimeter Lattice Animals

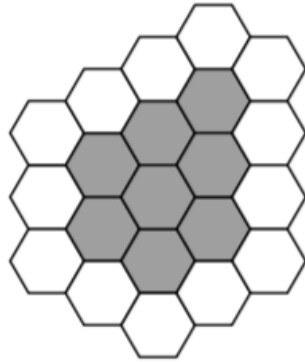
Gill Barequet, Gil Ben-Shachar
Dept. of Computer Science, Technion, Haifa
EuroCG 2020, Würzburg, Germany



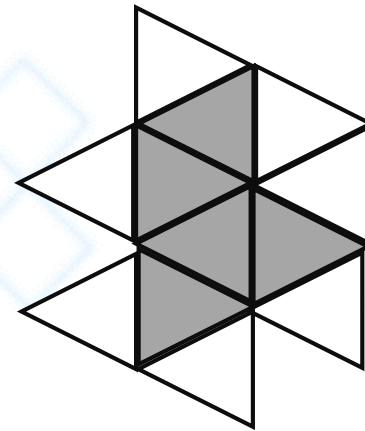
What is a Lattice Animal?



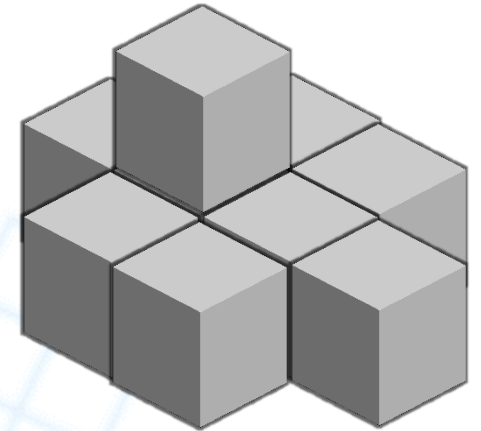
Polyominoes



Polyhexes



Polyiamonds

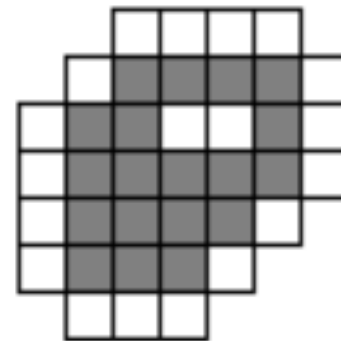
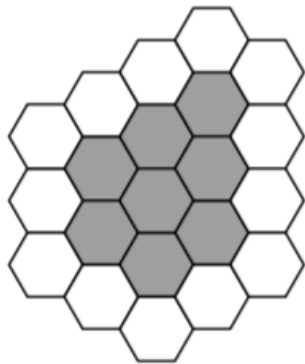


Polycubes



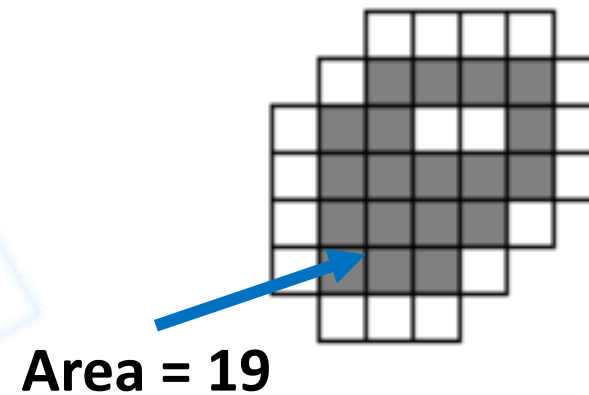
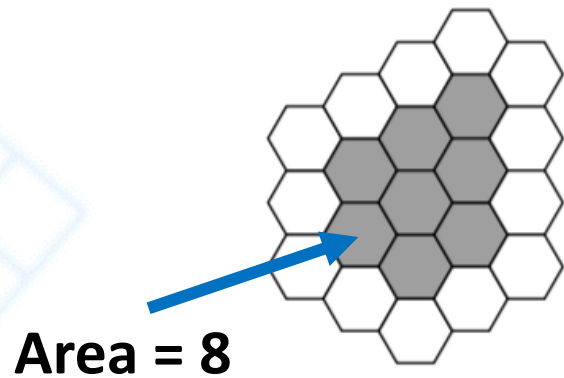
Definitions

Term	Definition	Notation
Lattice Animal	A set of connected cells on some lattice	Q



Definitions

Term	Definition	Notation
Lattice Animal	A set of connected cells on some lattice	Q
Area	The number of cells	$ Q $

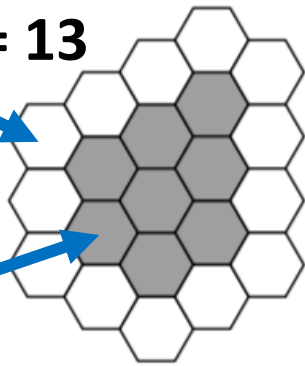


Definitions

Term	Definition	Notation
Lattice Animal	A set of connected cells on some lattice	Q
Area	The number of cells	$ Q $
Perimeter	Empty adjacent cells	$\mathcal{P}(Q)$

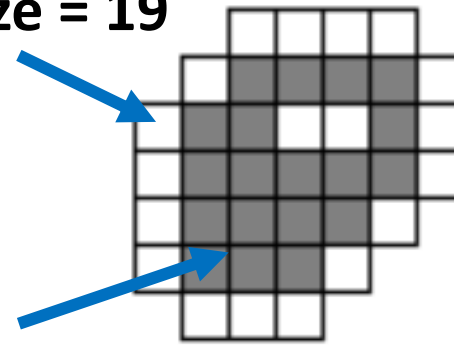
Perimeter size = 13

Area = 8



Perimeter size = 19

Area = 19

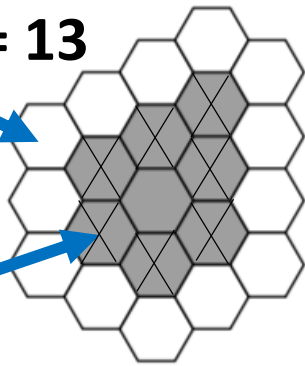


Definitions

Term	Definition	Notation
Lattice Animal	A set of connected cells on some lattice	Q
Area	The number of cells	$ Q $
Perimeter	Empty adjacent cells	$\mathcal{P}(Q)$
Border	Lattice animal cells with empty adjacent cells	$\mathcal{B}(Q)$

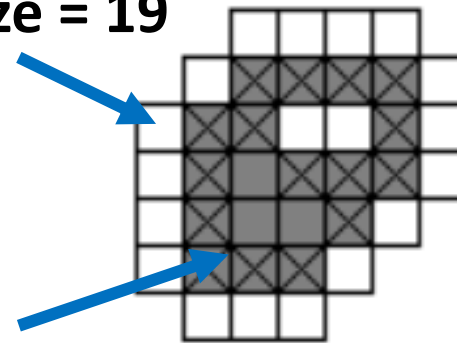
Perimeter size = 13

Area = 8



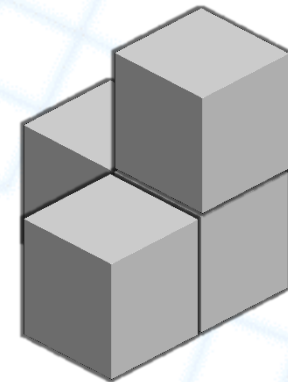
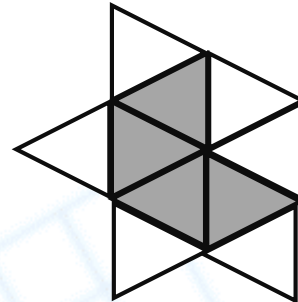
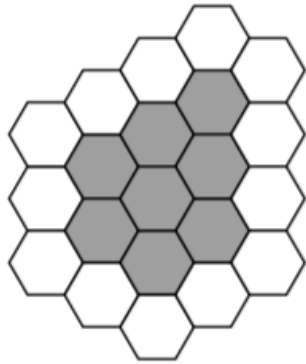
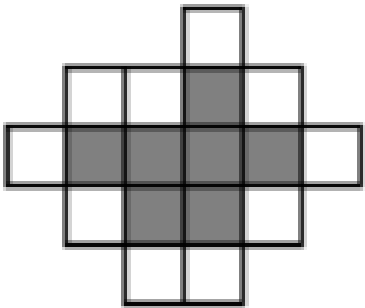
Perimeter size = 19

Area = 19

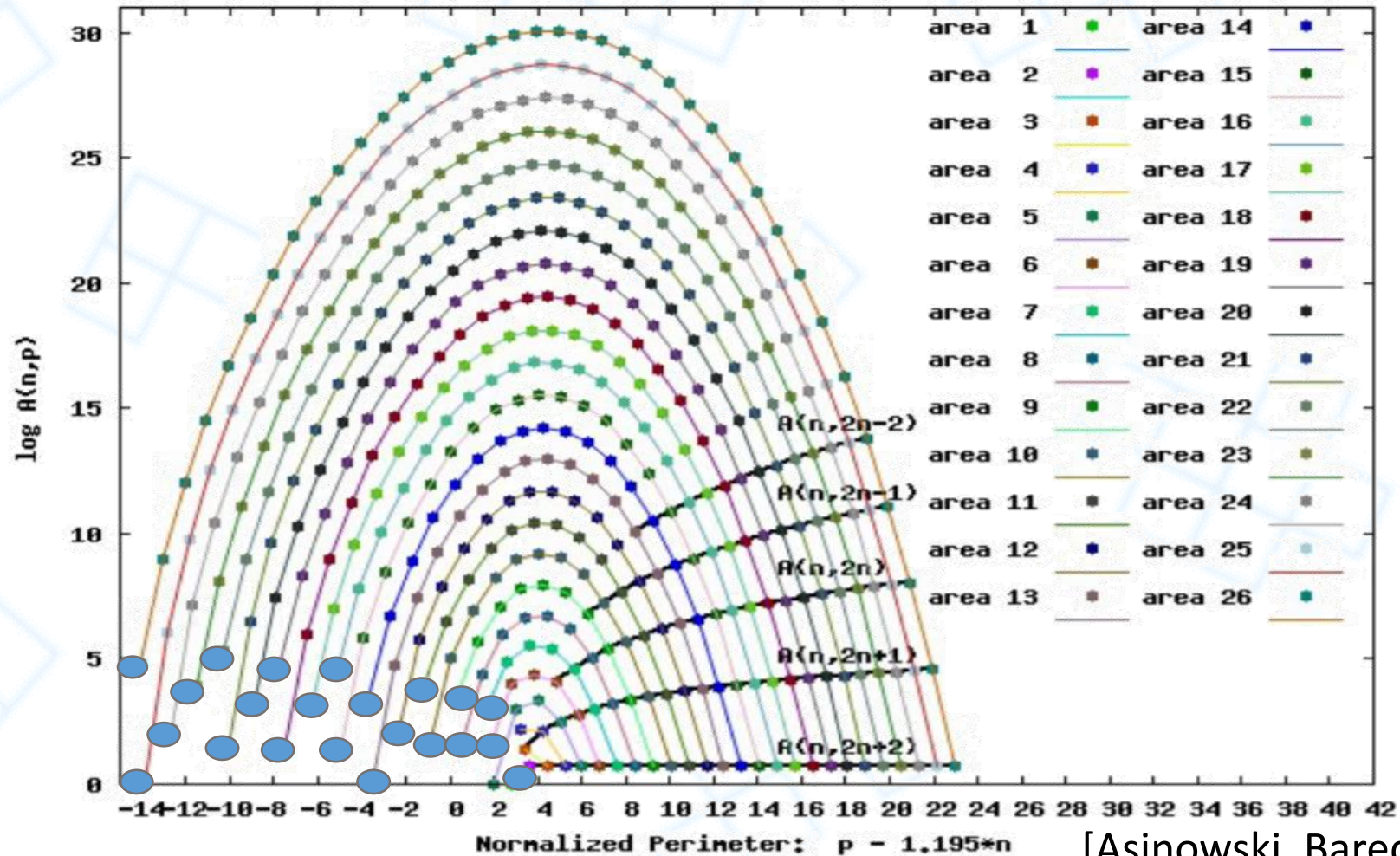


Minimal-Perimeter Lattice Animals

- **Definition:** a minimal-perimeter lattice animal (MPA) is a lattice animal which have the minimum possible perimeter from within all lattice animals of the same size.
- **Examples:**



Motivation



[Asinowski, Barequet and Zheng. 2017]



Minimal-Perimeter Lattice Animals

$$M_7 = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Cross shape with 7 black squares} \\ \text{Cross shape with 7 black squares} \\ \text{Cross shape with 7 black squares} \\ \text{Cross shape with 7 black squares} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$M_{17} = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Cross shape with 17 black squares} \\ \text{Cross shape with 17 black squares} \\ \text{Cross shape with 17 black squares} \\ \text{Cross shape with 17 black squares} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$M_{31} = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Cross shape with 31 black squares} \\ \text{Cross shape with 31 black squares} \\ \text{Cross shape with 31 black squares} \\ \text{Cross shape with 31 black squares} \end{array} \right\}$$



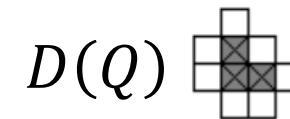
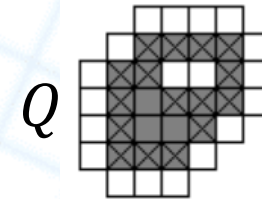
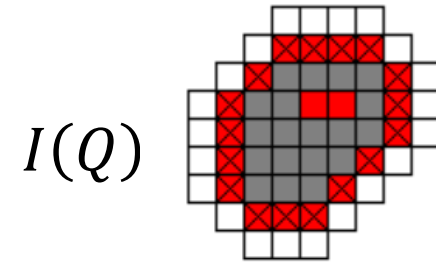
Inflation of Polyominoes

Inflation of a polyomino Q , $I(Q)$, is

$$I(Q) = Q \cup \mathcal{P}(Q)$$

The deflated polyomino $D(Q)$ is

$$D(Q) = Q \setminus \mathcal{B}(Q)$$



Inflation of Polyominoes

- Theorem: For $n \geq 3$ and any $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $|M_n| = |M_{n+k\epsilon(n)+2k(k-1)}|$

$$M_7 = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Polyomino 1} \quad \text{Polyomino 2} \quad \text{Polyomino 3} \quad \text{Polyomino 4} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$M_{17} = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Polyomino 1} \quad \text{Polyomino 2} \quad \text{Polyomino 3} \quad \text{Polyomino 4} \end{array} \right\}$$

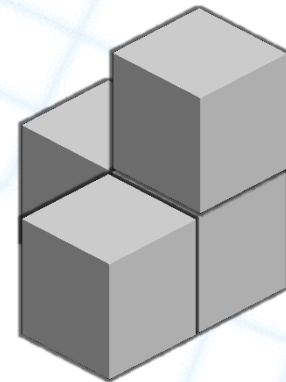
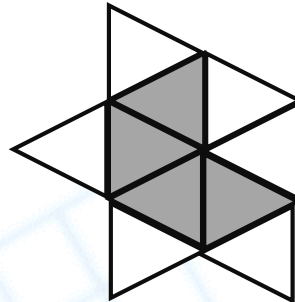
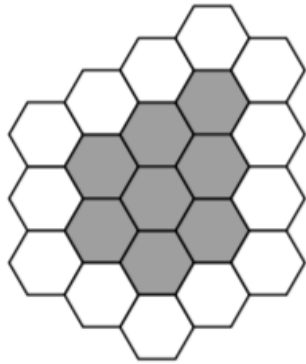
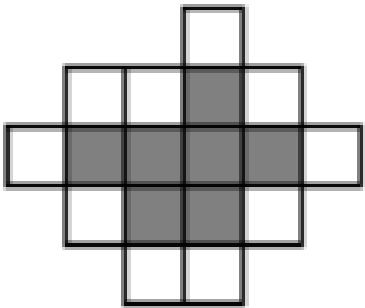
$$M_{31} = \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Polyomino 1} \quad \text{Polyomino 2} \quad \text{Polyomino 3} \quad \text{Polyomino 4} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$|M_{2477537}| = 4$$



Minimal-Perimeter Lattice Animals

- **Definition:** a minimal-perimeter lattice animal (MPA) is a lattice animal which have the minimum possible perimeter from within all lattice animals of the same size.
- **Examples:**



Generalization to Lattice Animals

- Does inflation induce a bijection in other lattices?
- The following set of conditions are sufficient:
 - 1) The minimal perimeter size is monotonically increasing (w.r.t the area)
 - 2) $|\mathcal{P}(Q)| = |\mathcal{B}(Q)| + c$ for some c ← Heaviest requirements
 - 3) Deflation of a MPA creates a valid lattice animal



Proof structure

- The idea is to show a bijection between sets of MPAs.
- First direction: Inflation of an MPA creates a new (unique) MPA.
- Second direction: If one MPA of area n is created by an inflation, then any MPA of area n can be deflated to a smaller MPA.



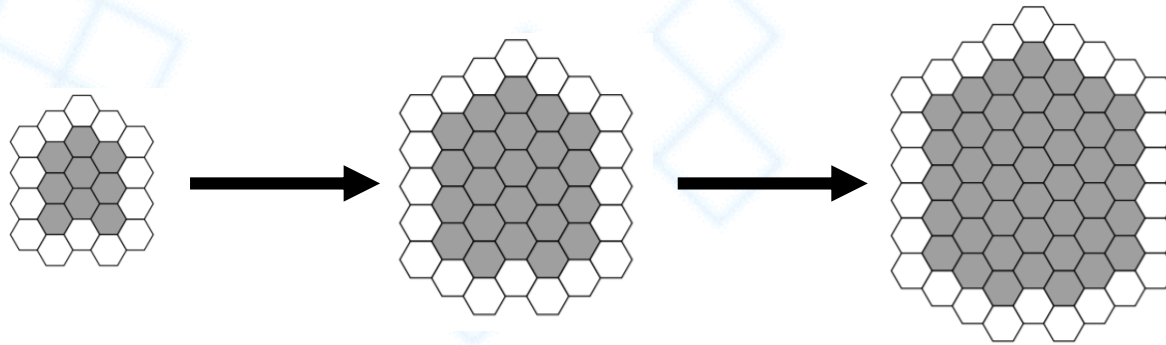
Proof: First direction

- **Theorem:** For a minimal-perimeter animal Q , $I(Q)$ is a minimal-perimeter animal as well.
- Proof idea
 - Assume $I(Q)$ is not minimal-perimeter animal.
 - $\exists Q'$ s.t. $|Q'| = I(Q)$ and $|\mathcal{P}(Q')| < |\mathcal{P}(I(Q))|$
 - After some calculations (using condition #2) – $|D(Q')| > |Q|$, and $|\mathcal{P}(Q')| < |\mathcal{P}(Q)|$
 - Contradicts condition #1.
 - $\Rightarrow Q$ is not a minimal-perimeter animal.



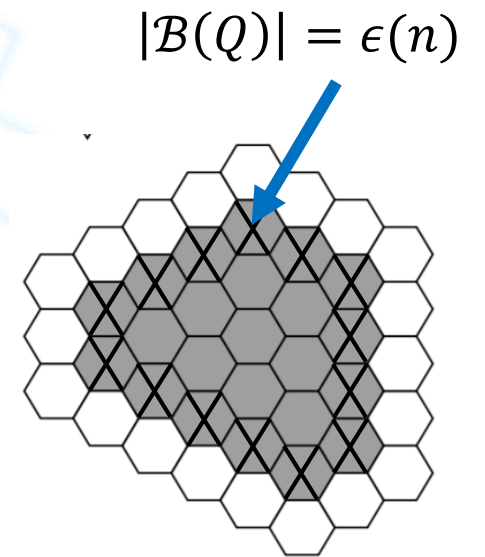
First direction: Corollary

- Inflation of MPAs creates an infinite chain of new MPAs.



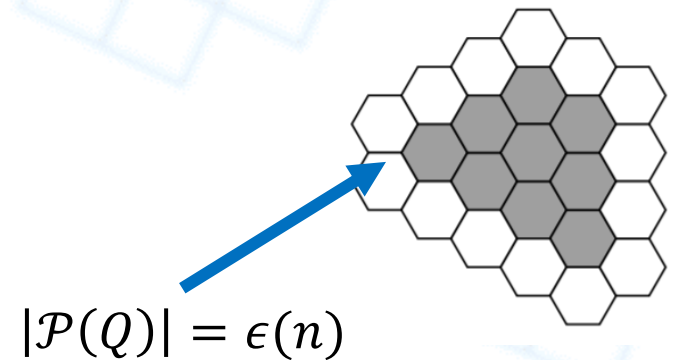
Second direction

- Lemma: If $Q \in M_{n+\epsilon(n)}$ then $D(Q) \in M_n$
- Proof:
- Let $Q \in M_{n+\epsilon(n)}$
- $|\mathcal{B}(Q)| = \epsilon(n)$, thus $|D(Q)| = n$.



Second direction

- Lemma: If $Q \in M_{n+\epsilon(n)}$ then $D(Q) \in M_n$
- Proof:
- Let $Q \in M_{n+\epsilon(n)}$
- $|\mathcal{B}(Q)| = \epsilon(n)$, thus $|D(Q)| = n$.
- $|\mathcal{P}(D(Q))| \geq \epsilon(n)$ and $\mathcal{P}(D(Q)) \subseteq \mathcal{B}(Q)$
- $\mathcal{P}(D(Q)) = \mathcal{B}(Q) \Rightarrow I(D(Q)) = Q$.
- $\Rightarrow |M_n| \geq |M_{n+\epsilon(n)}|$



Generalization to Lattice Animals

- Does inflation induce a this bijection in other lattices?
- The following set of conditions are sufficient:
 - 1) The minimal perimeter size is monotonically increasing
 - 2) $|\mathcal{P}(Q)| = |\mathcal{B}(Q)| + c$ for some c ← Heaviest requirements
 - 3) Deflation of a MPA creates a valid lattice animal



Proof for polyhexes

- 1) The minimal perimeter size is monotonically increasing
Known [Vainsencher and Bruckstein, 2008]
- 2) $|\mathcal{P}(Q)| = |\mathcal{B}(Q)| + c$ for some c
- 3) Deflation of a minimal-perimeter polyhex creates a valid polyhex

Easy to see...



Proof for polyhexes

- How to prove that $\mathcal{P}(Q) = \mathcal{B}(Q) + c$?
- Classify each cell or perimeter cell to one of the following patterns:

Regular cells:



Perimeter cells:



- Show that: $\mathcal{P}(Q) = \mathcal{B}(Q) + 3 \cdot \# \begin{array}{c} \text{hexagon with 5 gray neighbors} \\ \text{hexagon with 2 white neighbors} \end{array} + 2 \cdot \# \begin{array}{c} \text{hexagon with 4 gray neighbors} \\ \text{hexagon with 2 white neighbors} \end{array} + \# \begin{array}{c} \text{hexagon with 3 gray neighbors} \\ \text{hexagon with 3 white neighbors} \end{array} - \# \begin{array}{c} \text{hexagon with 6 gray neighbors} \\ \text{hexagon with 0 white neighbors} \end{array}$



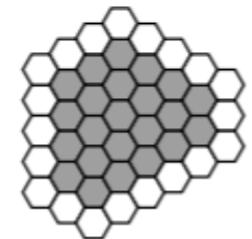
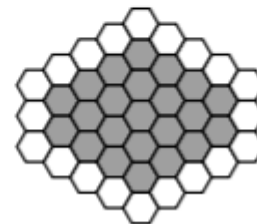
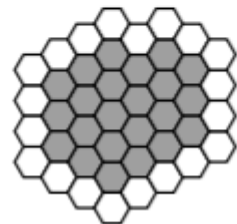
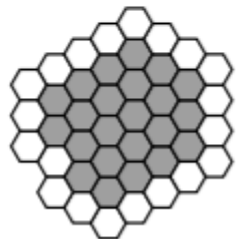
Proof for polyhexes

- How to prove that $\mathcal{P}(Q) = \mathcal{B}(Q) + c$?
- Show that: $\mathcal{P}(Q) = \mathcal{B}(Q) + 3 \cdot \# \begin{array}{c} \text{hexagon} \\ \text{with 3 shaded} \end{array} + 2 \cdot \# \begin{array}{c} \text{hexagon} \\ \text{with 2 shaded} \end{array} + \# \begin{array}{c} \text{hexagon} \\ \text{with 1 shaded} \end{array}$
 $\begin{array}{c} \text{hexagon} \\ \text{with 0 shaded} \end{array} 3 \cdot \# \begin{array}{c} \text{hexagon} \\ \text{with 0 shaded} \end{array} 2 \cdot \# \begin{array}{c} \text{hexagon} \\ \text{with 0 shaded} \end{array} - \#$
- Use some calculations to get:

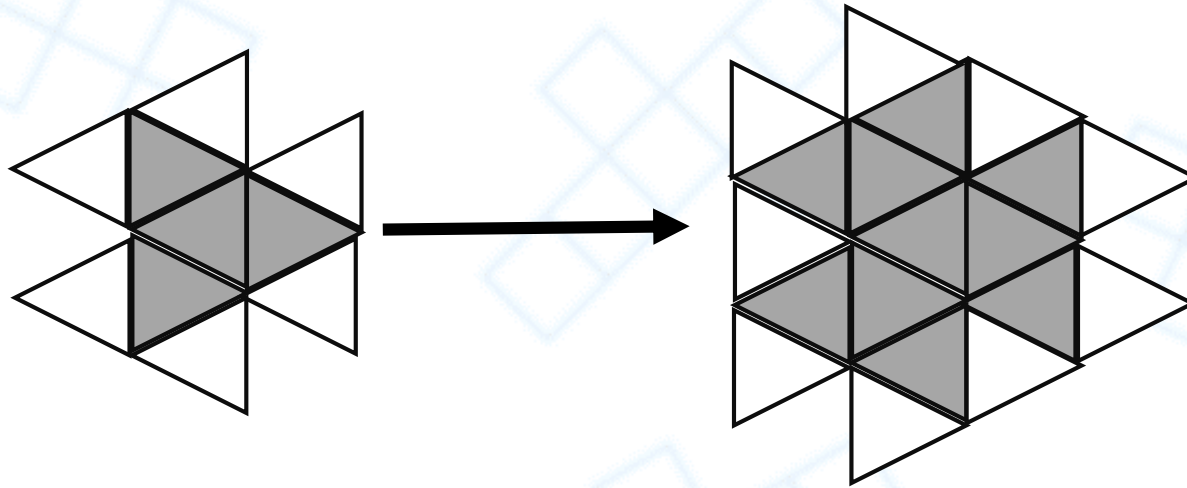
$$\mathcal{P}(Q) = \mathcal{B}(Q) + 6$$
- (For polyominoes it is $\mathcal{P}(Q) = \mathcal{B}(Q) + 4$)



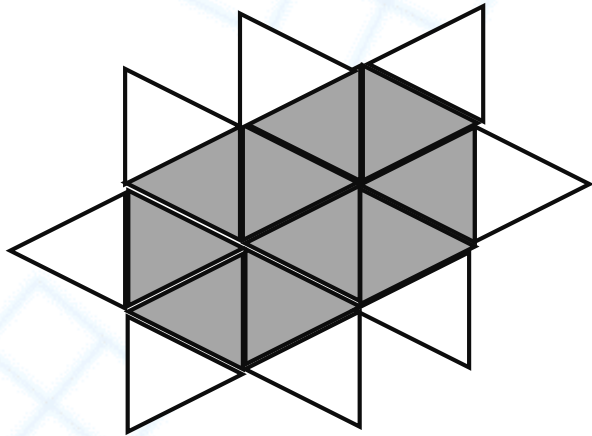
Proof for polyhexes



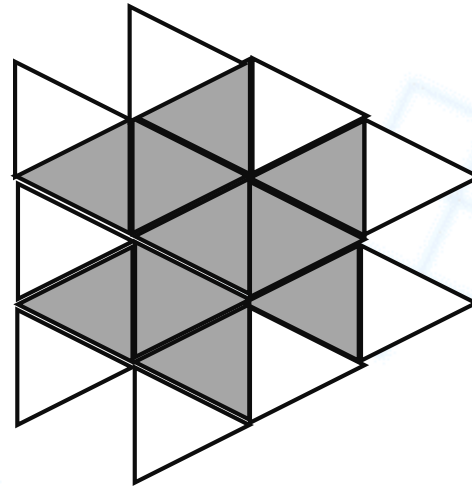
Polyiamonds



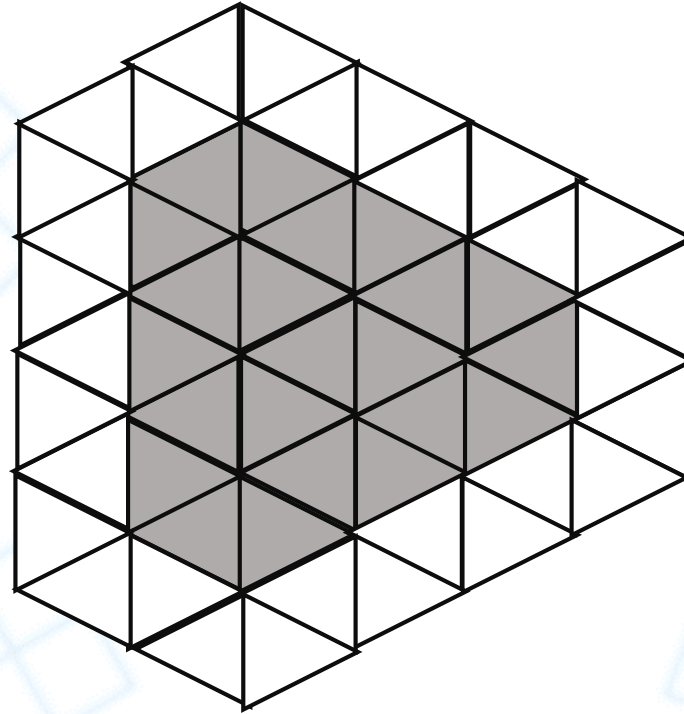
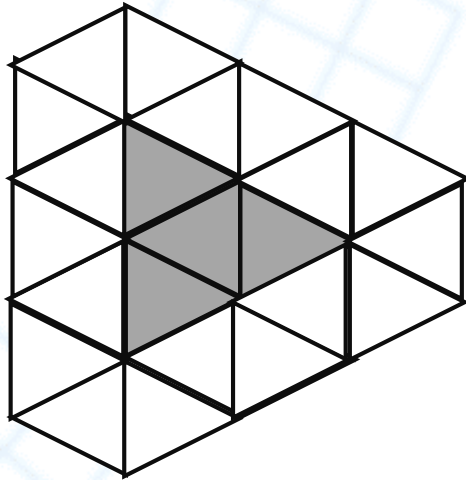
Polyiamonds



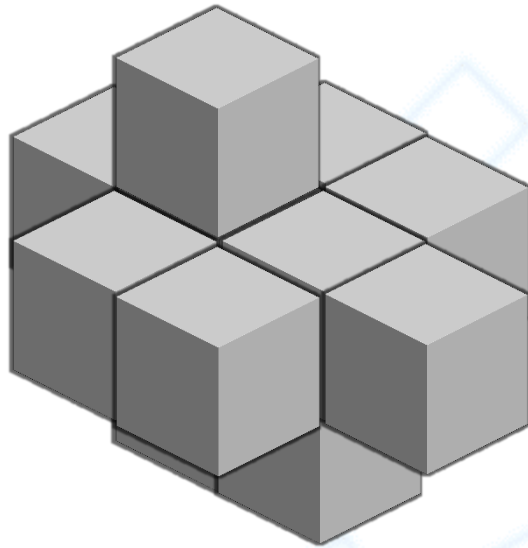
VS.



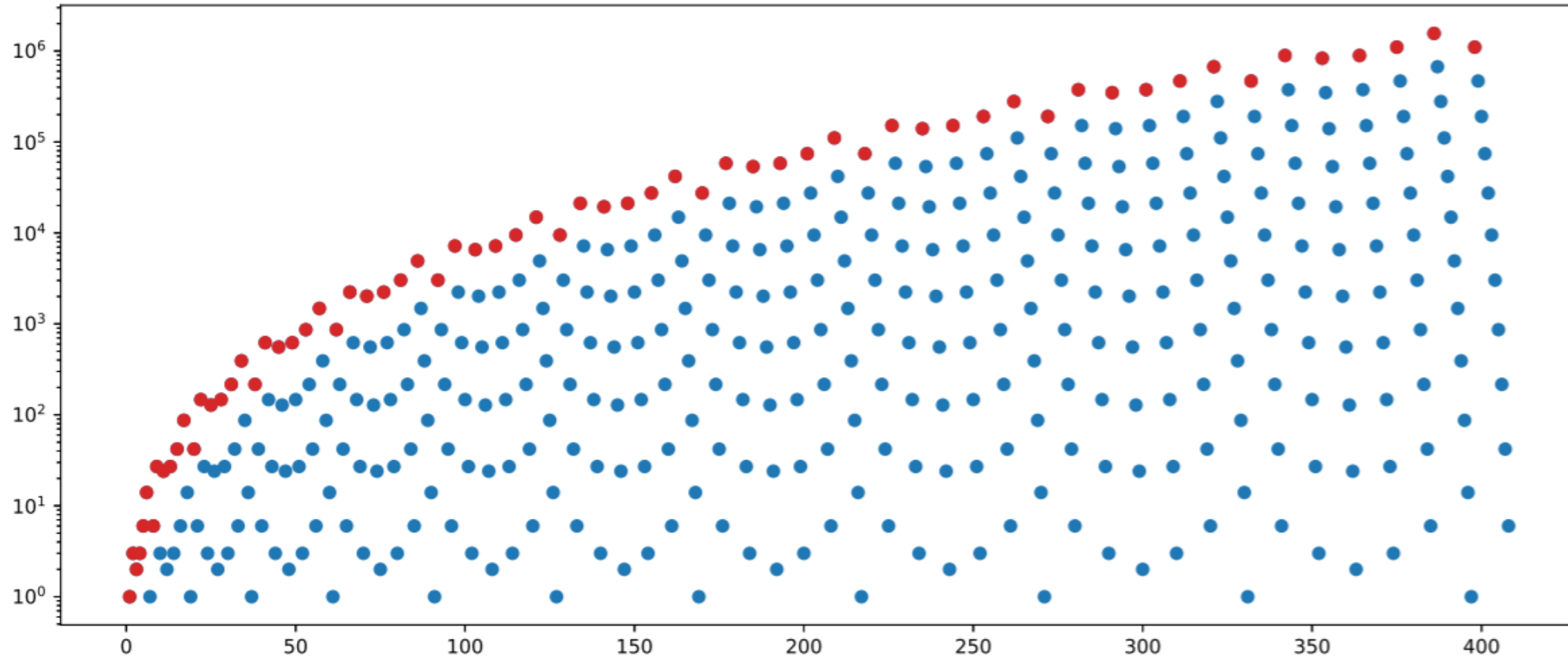
Polyiamonds



Polycubes

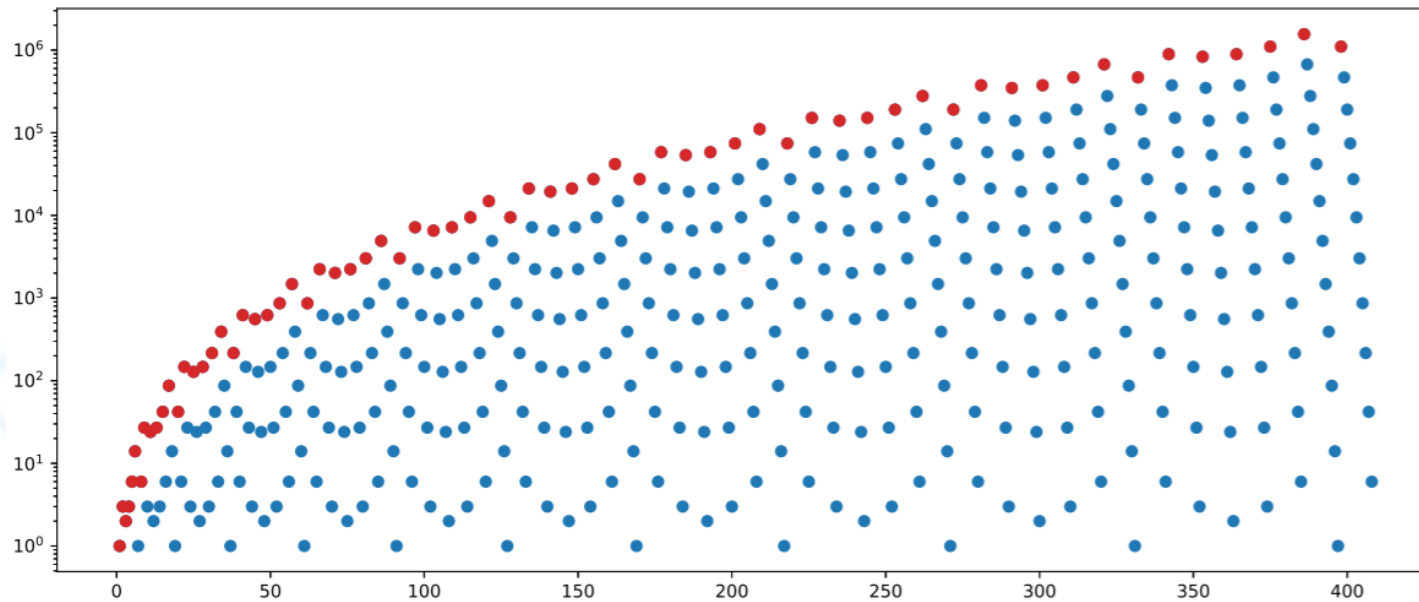


Counting Minimal-Perimeter Polyhexes



Questions

- Is there a bijection between sets of minimal-perimeter polycubes?
- Are all the conditions necessary?



???



Thank you!

