

Enumeration of polyominoes
with fixed perimeter defect

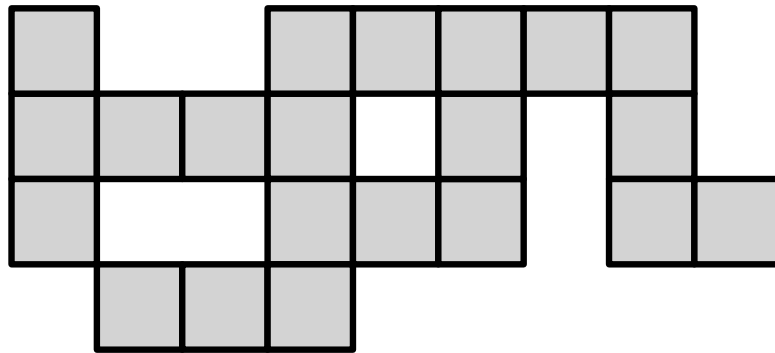
Andrei Asinowski

(Vienna University of Technology)

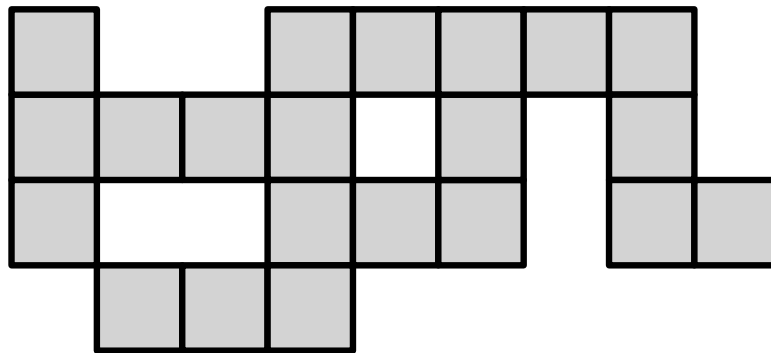
Gill Barequet, Yufei Zheng

(Technion – Israel Institute of Technology)

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The size of a polyomino is the number of cells.

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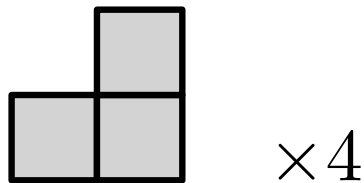
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Only 56 numbers are known (Jensen);

The nature of the generating function is not known;

The limit $\lambda := \lim A(n+1)/A(n)$ exists (Madras);

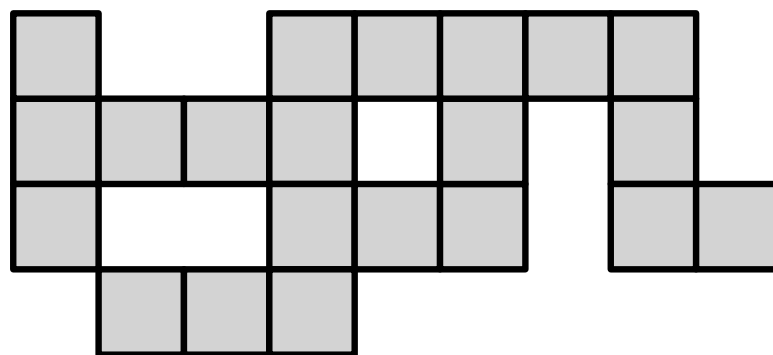
Bounds: $\lambda > 4.0025$ (Barequet, Rote, Shalah),

$\lambda < 4.6496$ (Klarner, Rivest);

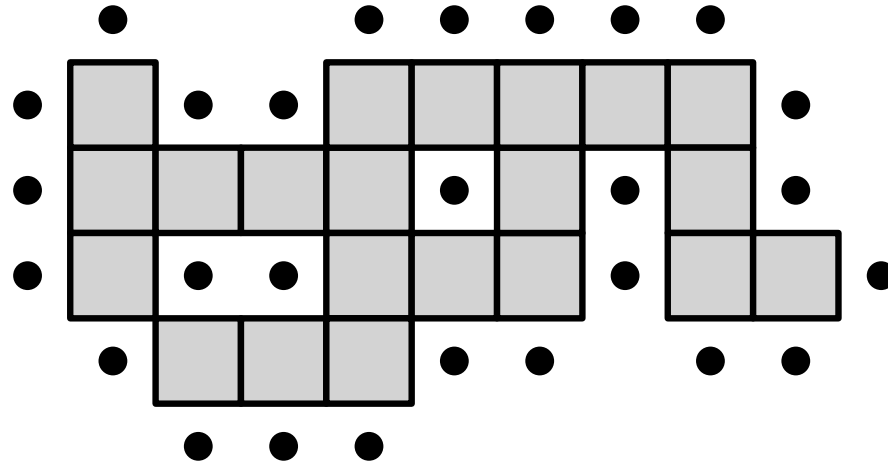
Conjectured: $\lambda \approx 4.0626$.

The perimeter p of a polyomino P is the number of empty cells that neighbor at least one cell of P .

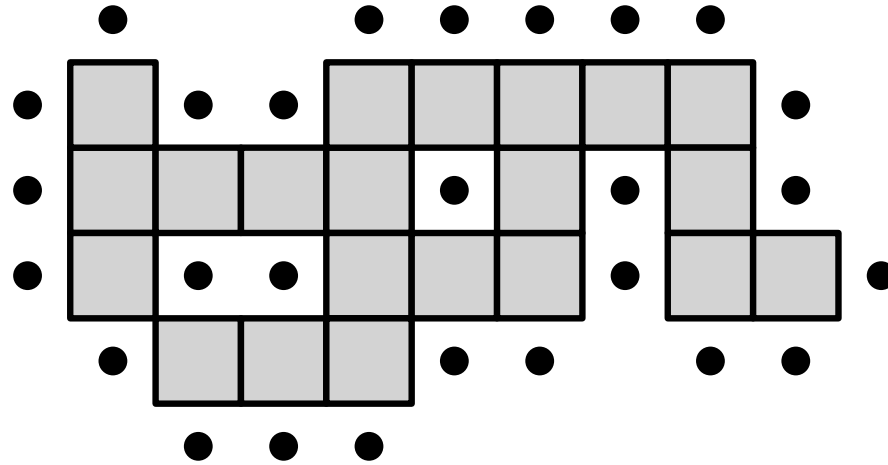
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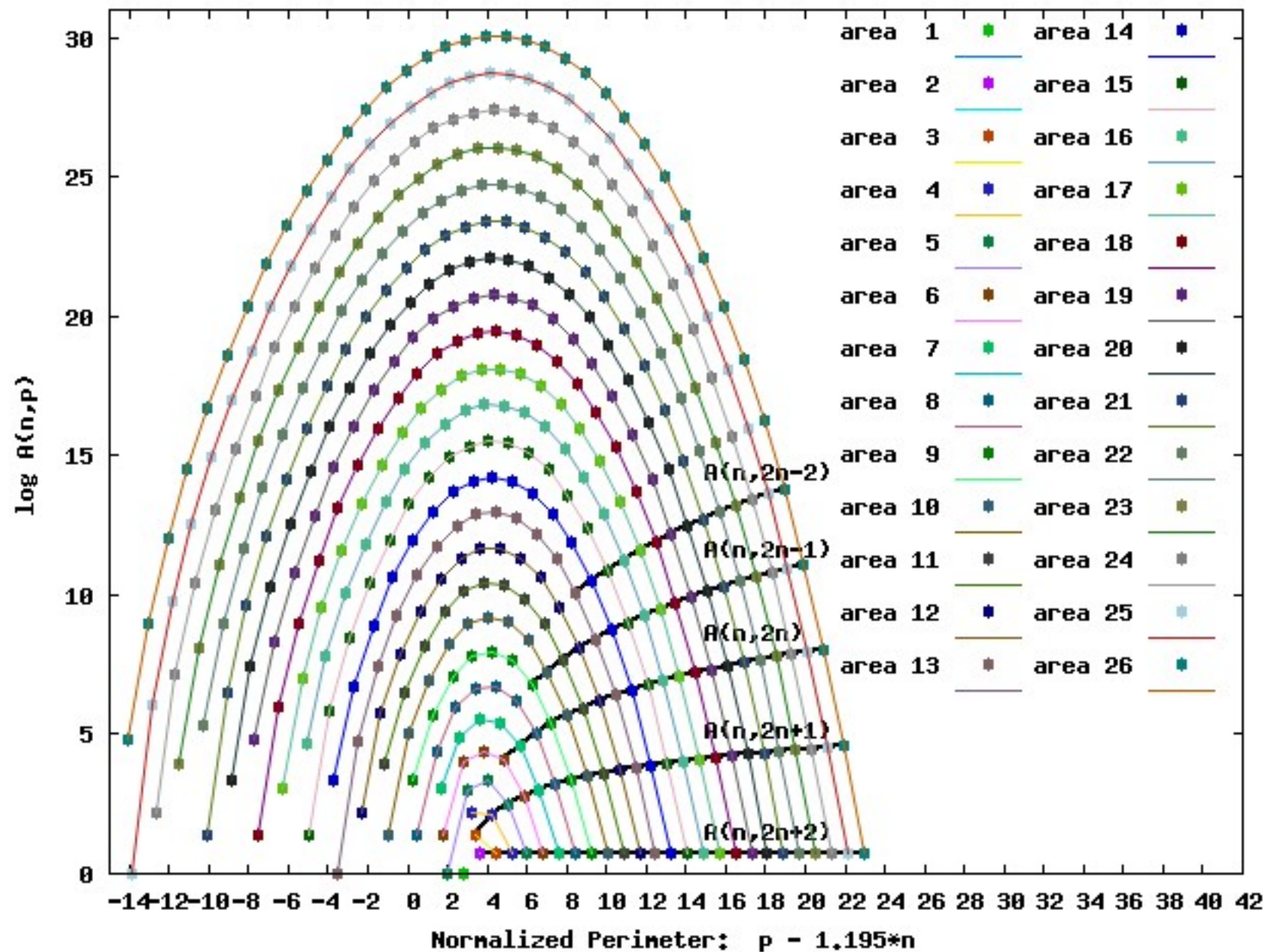
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We denote by $A(n, p)$ the number of polyominoes with area n and perimeter p .



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Definition:

The (*perimeter*) defect of P is $k := 2n + 2 - p$.

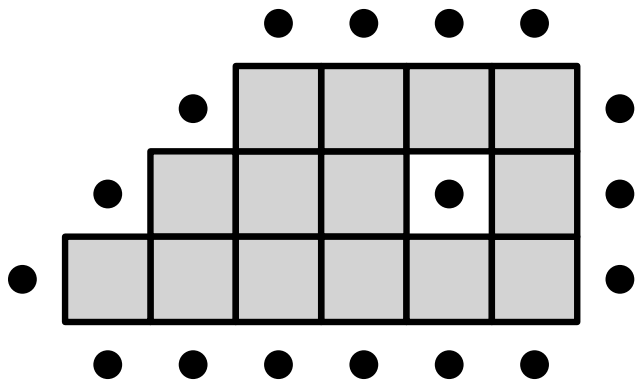
A *perimeter cell*: a free cell that has an occupied neighbor.

An *excess* of a perimeter cell is the number of occupied neighbors minus 1.

The *total excess* of a polyomino is the sum of excesses over all perimeter cells.

Proposition: For each polyomino, we have $k = e + 2f$, where e is the total excess, and f is the number of inner faces in the dual map.

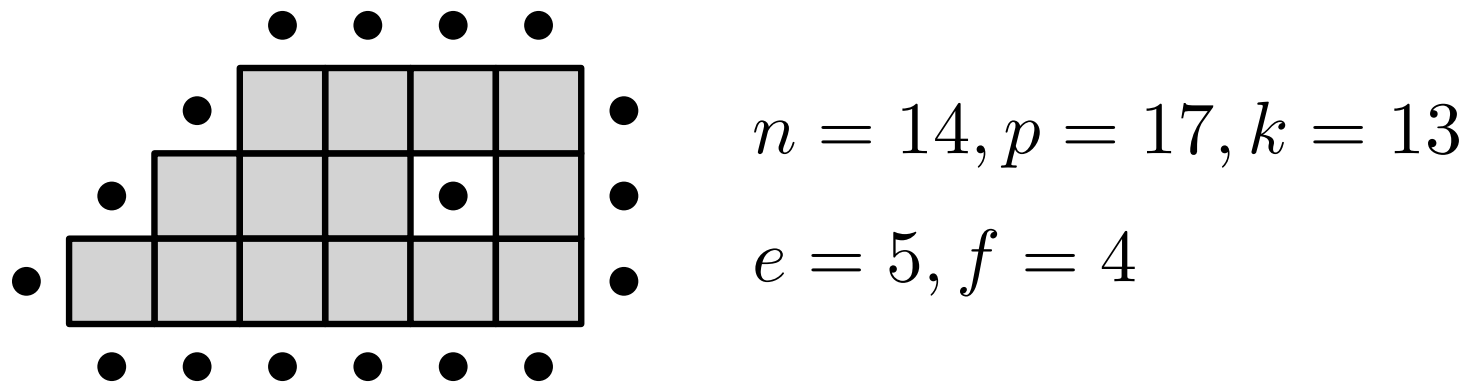
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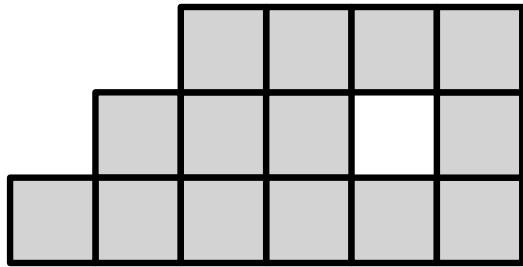


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Loss:

- each free cell excess contributes its excess directly,
- each edge of a spanning tree contributes 2,
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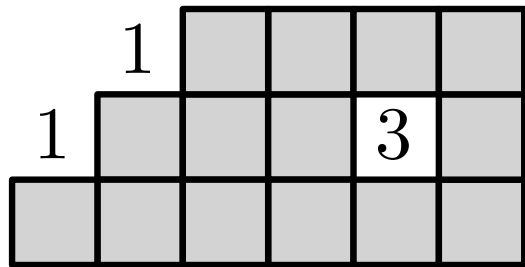
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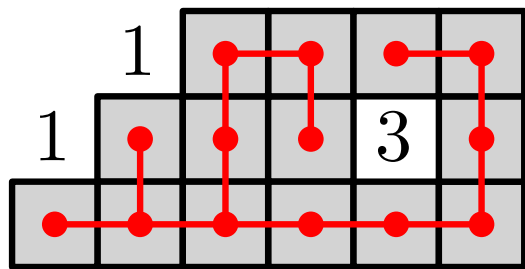
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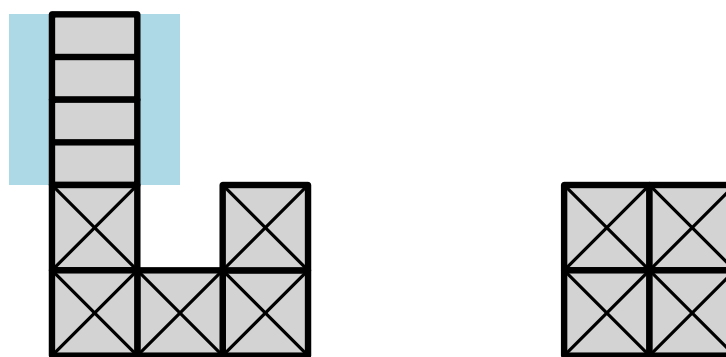
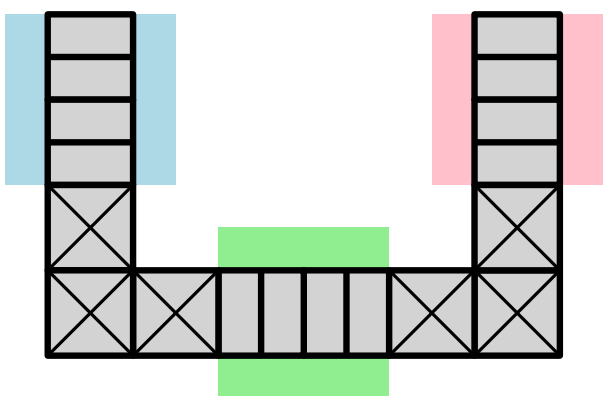
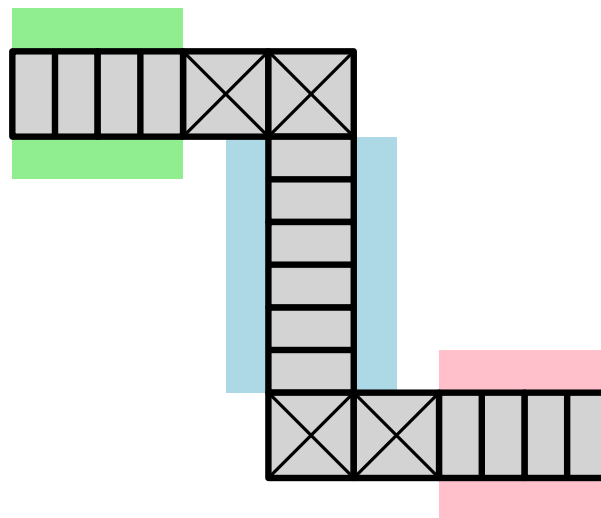
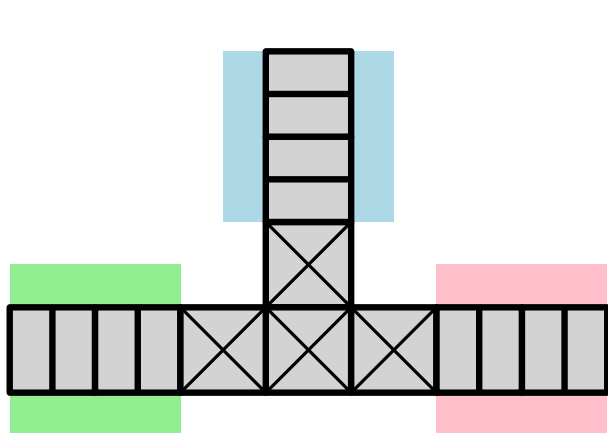
$$e = 1, f = 0 \Rightarrow$$

the polyomino is a “one-bend path” \Rightarrow

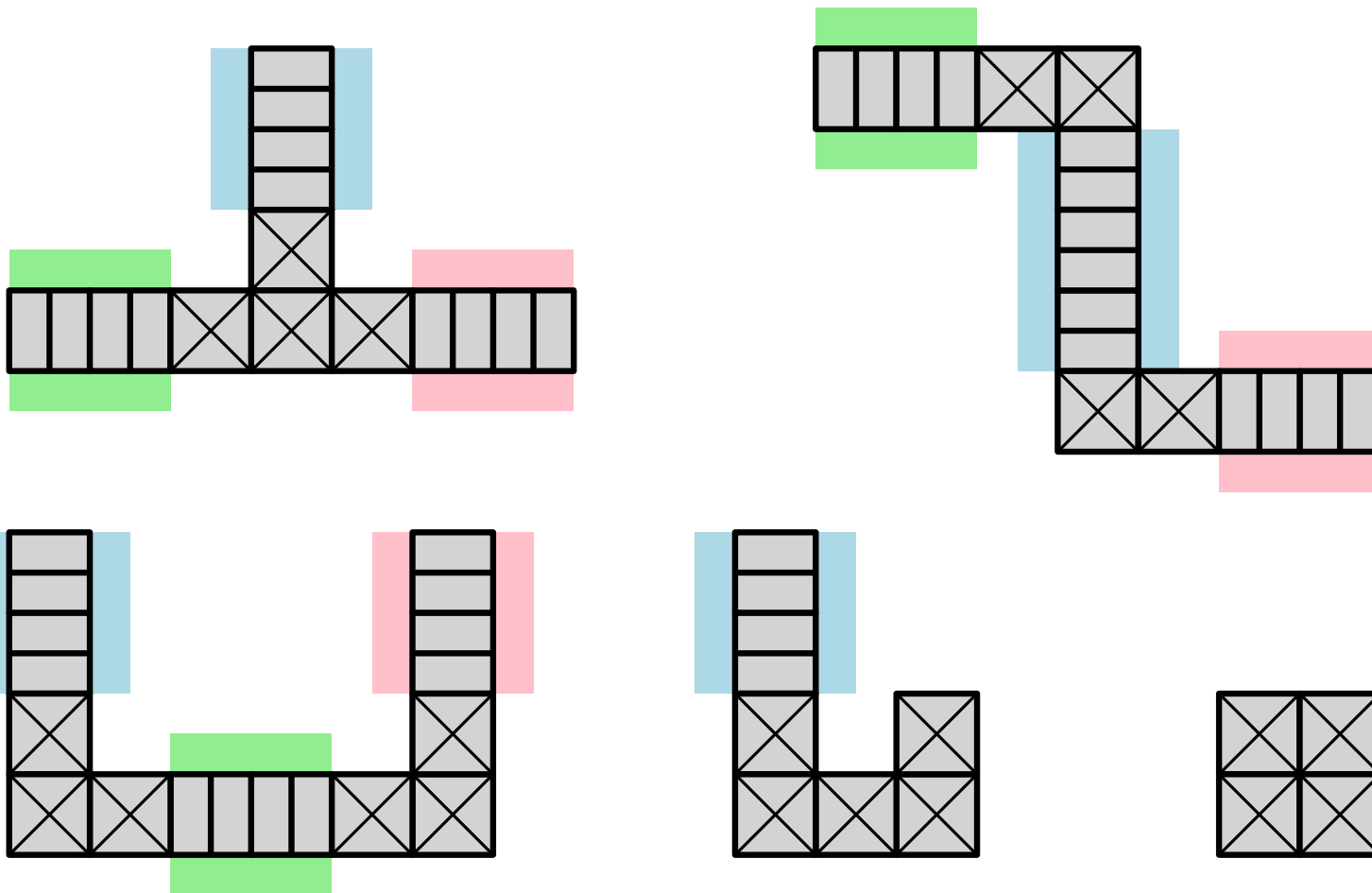
for $n \geq 3$, we have $A(n, 2n + 1) = 4(n - 2)$.

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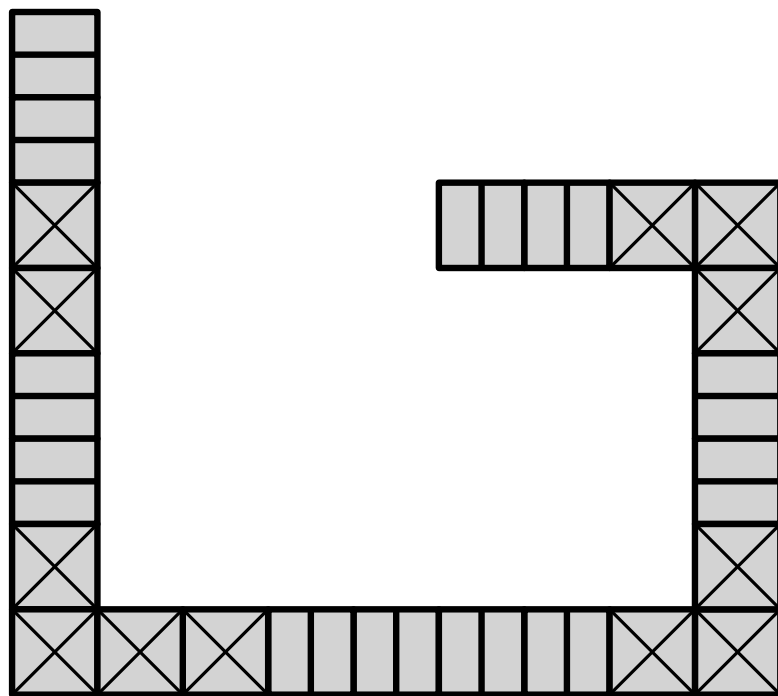
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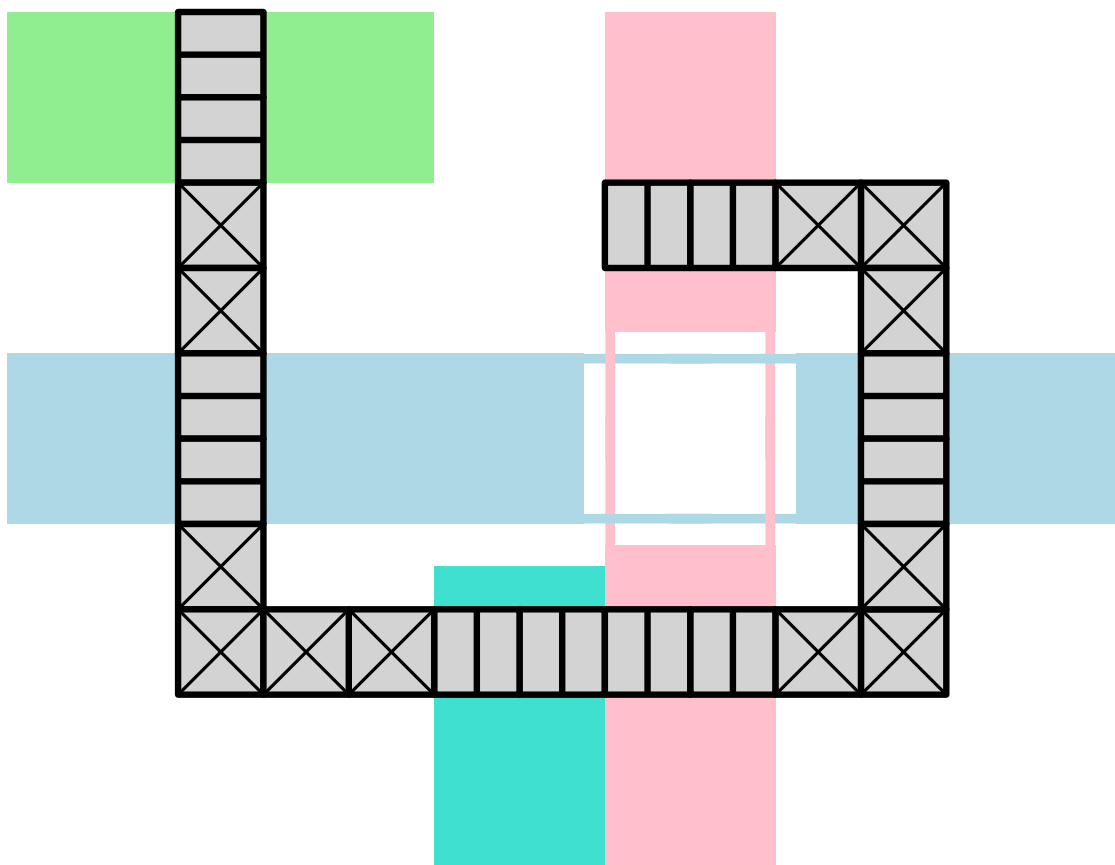
$A(n, 2n) =$ a quadratic polynomial.

$k = 3$: We have 18 patterns, not all of them are polynomial.

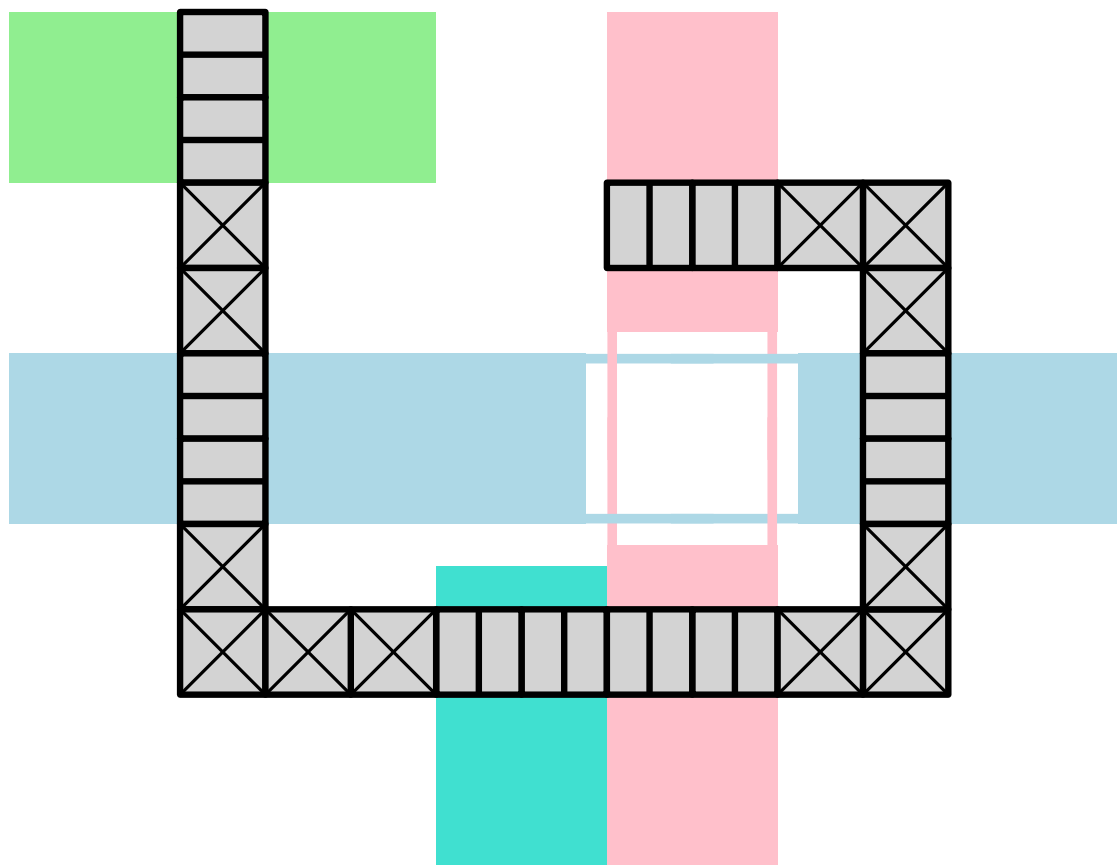
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$$A(n, 2n-1) =$$

$$-\frac{2107}{2} - \frac{21}{2}(-1)^n + \left(\frac{1947}{4} + \frac{5}{4}(-1)^n\right)n - 89n^2 + \frac{13}{2}n^3$$

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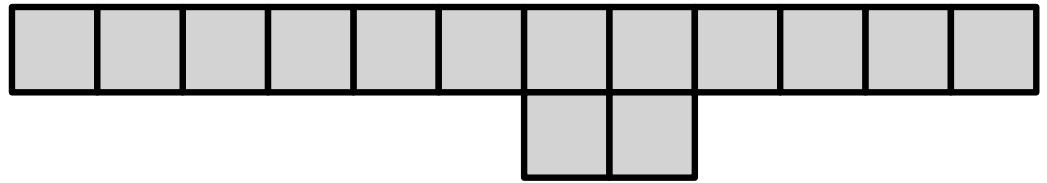
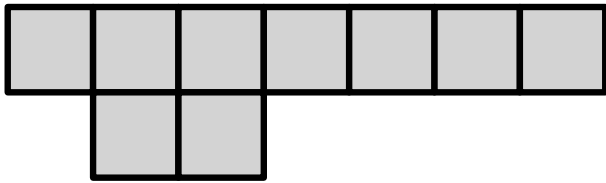
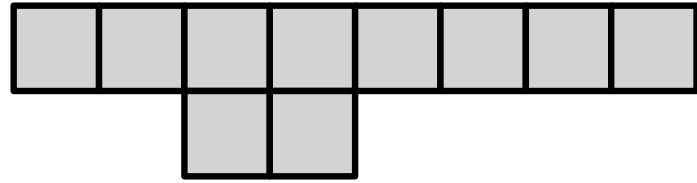
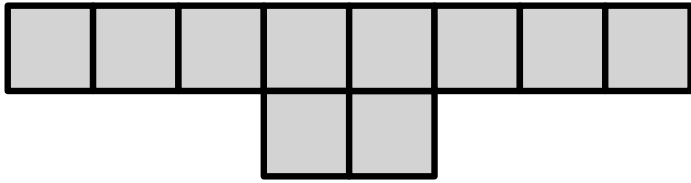
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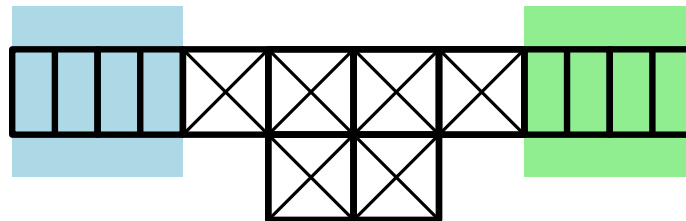
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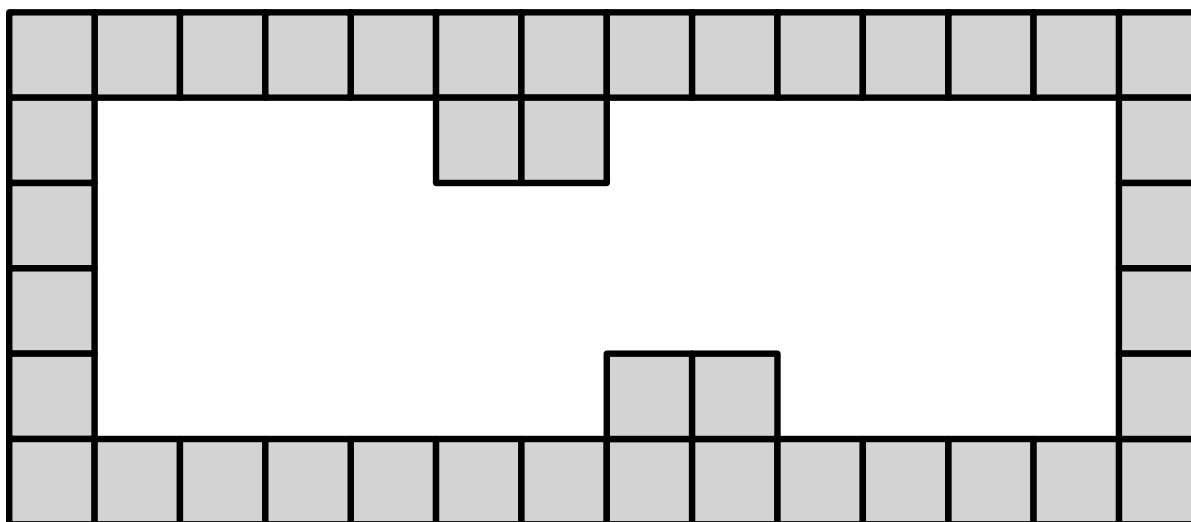
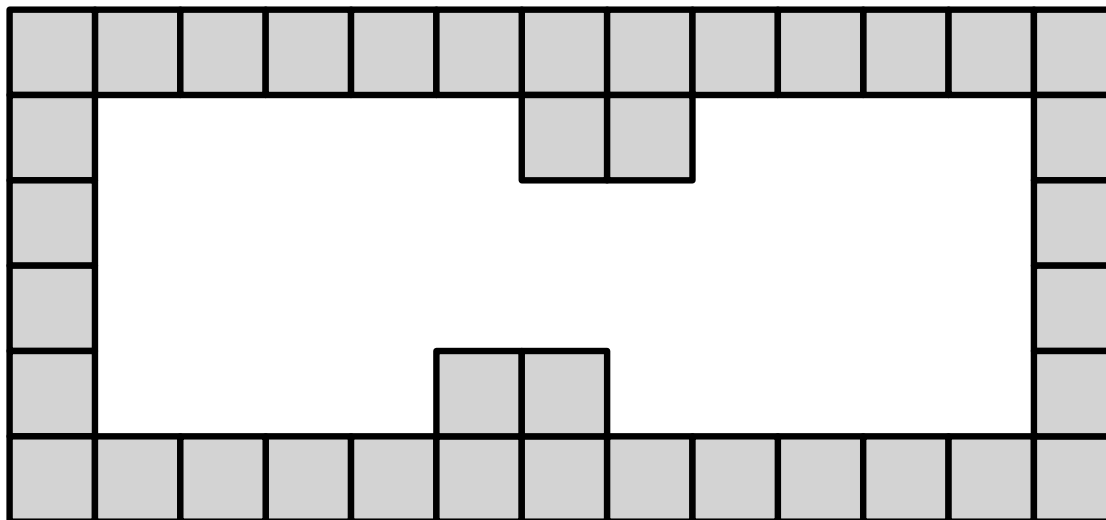
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 2. The number of patterns is finite.
- A “correct” notion of pattern (to ensure partition).



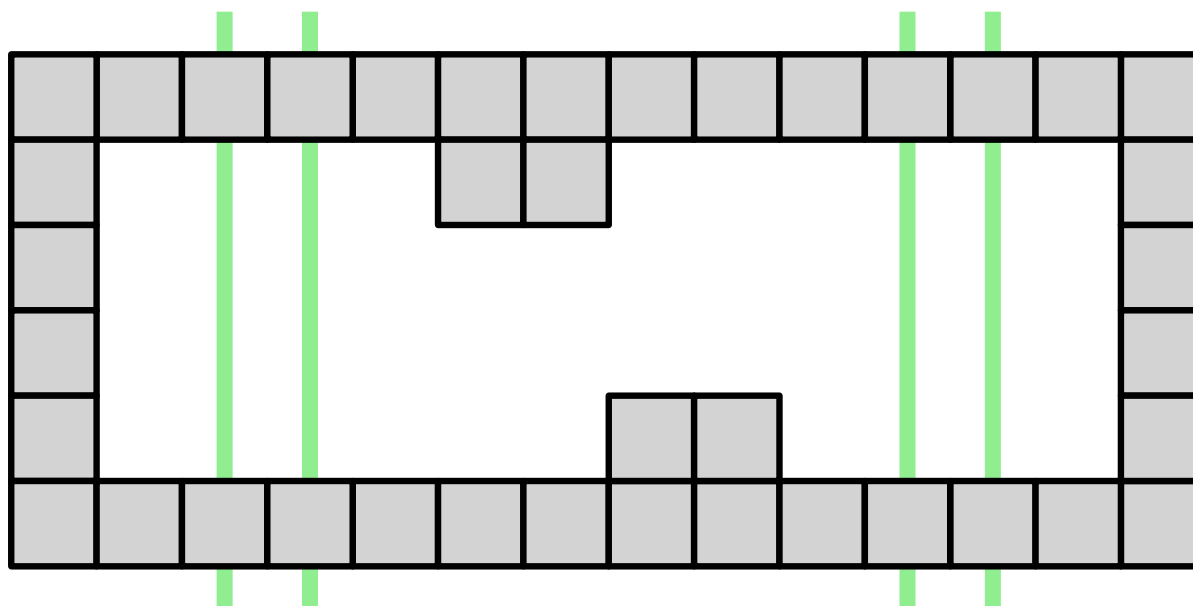
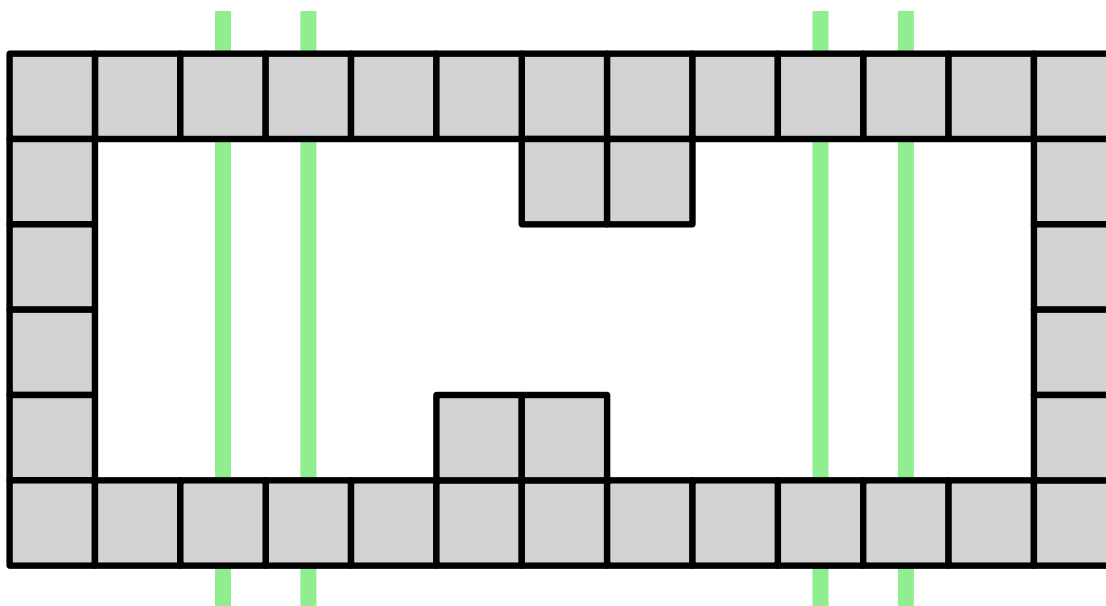
We expect that these will be in the same class.



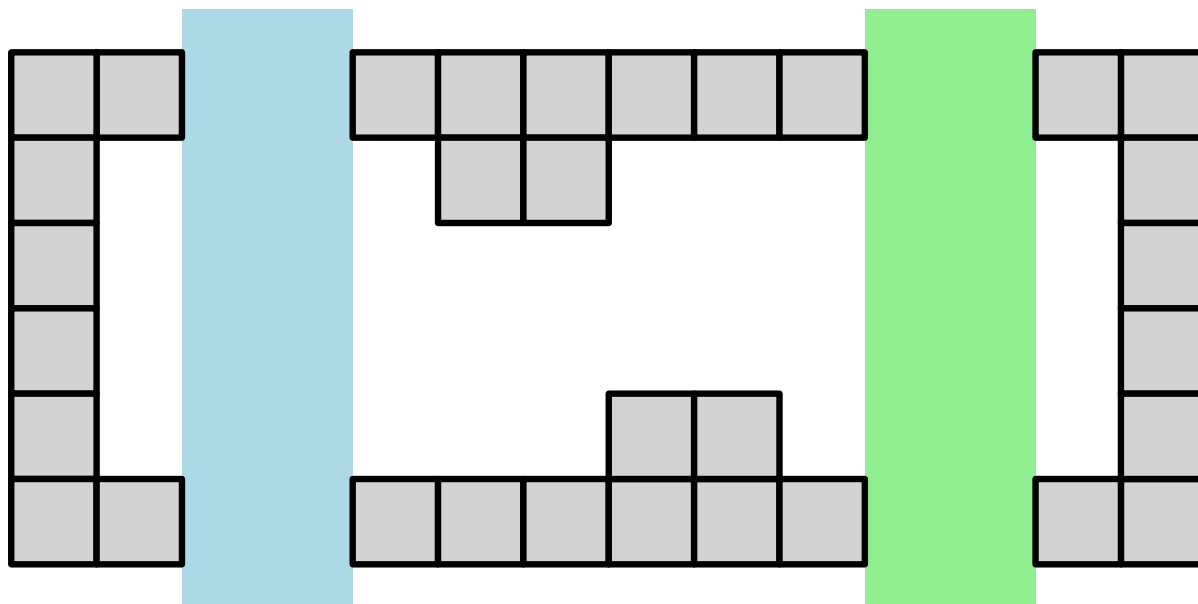
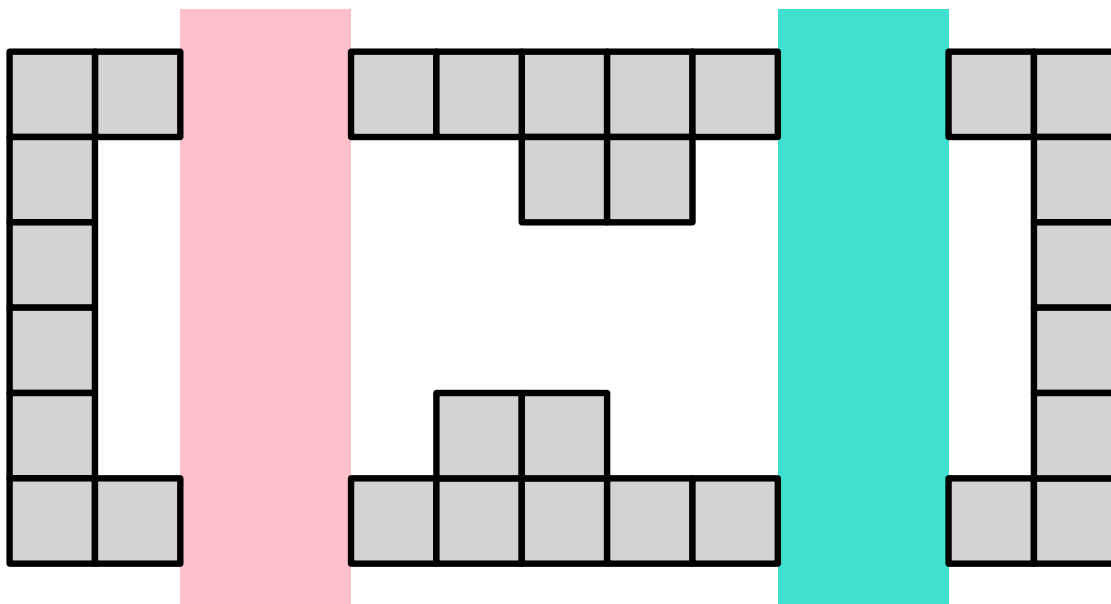
What about these?



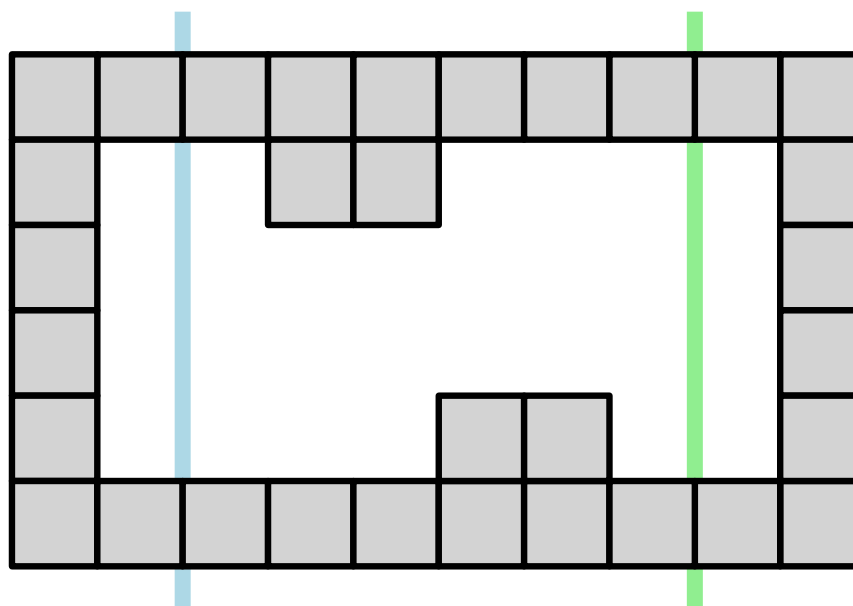
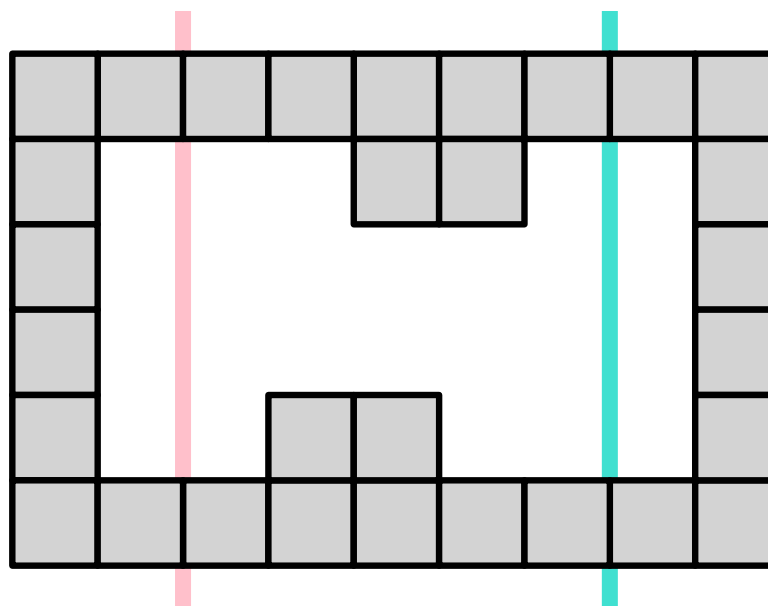
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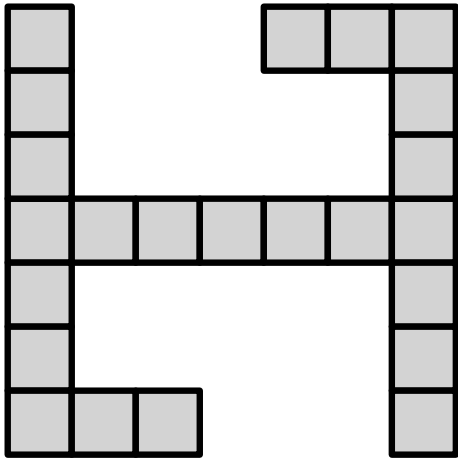


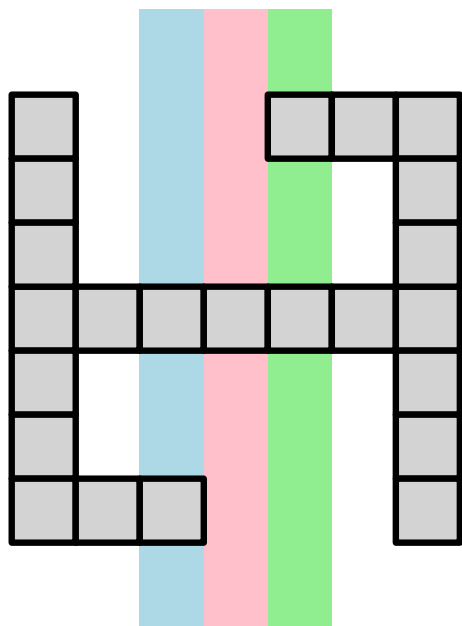
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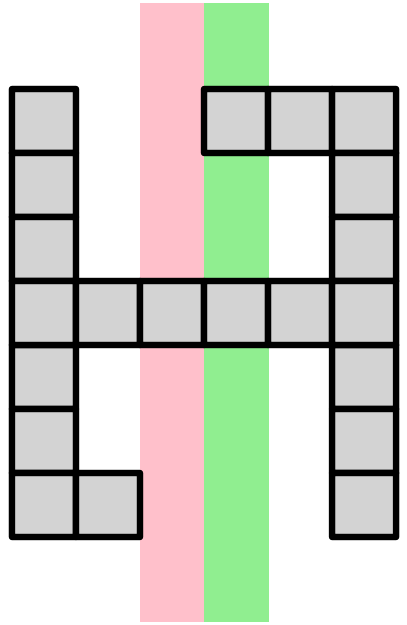
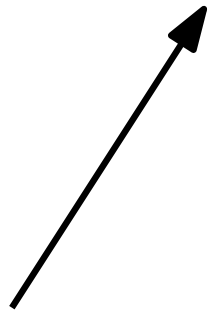
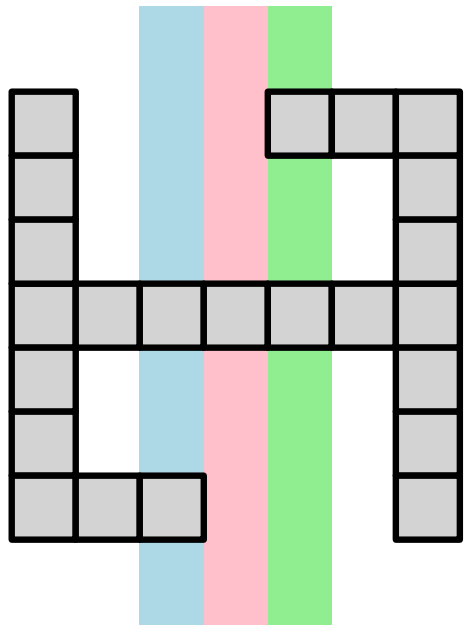


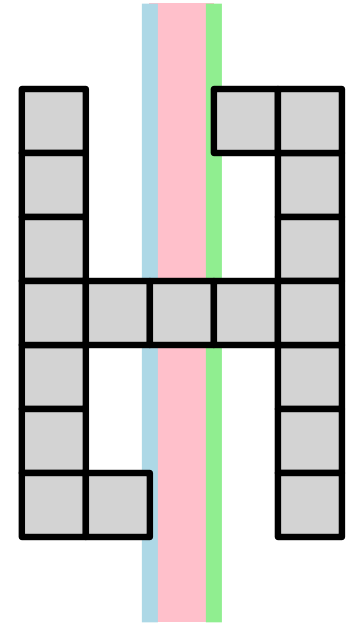
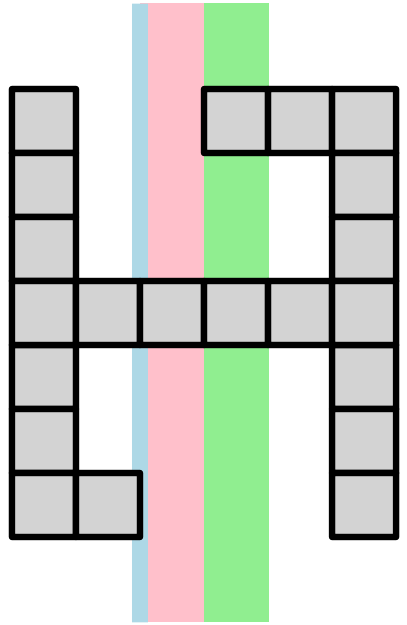
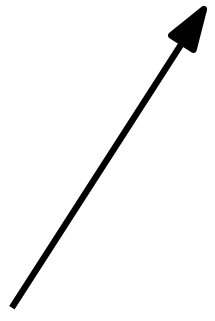
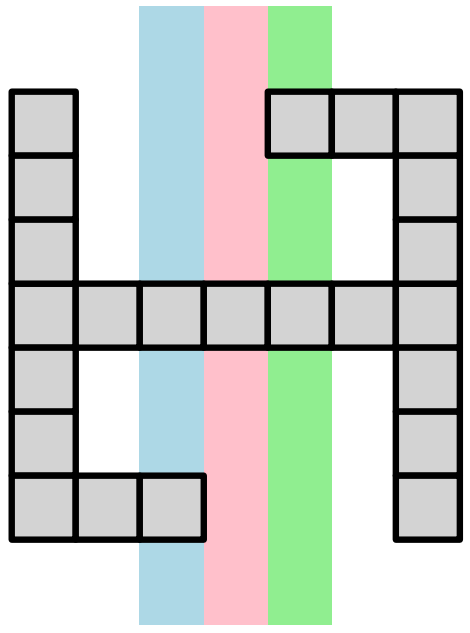
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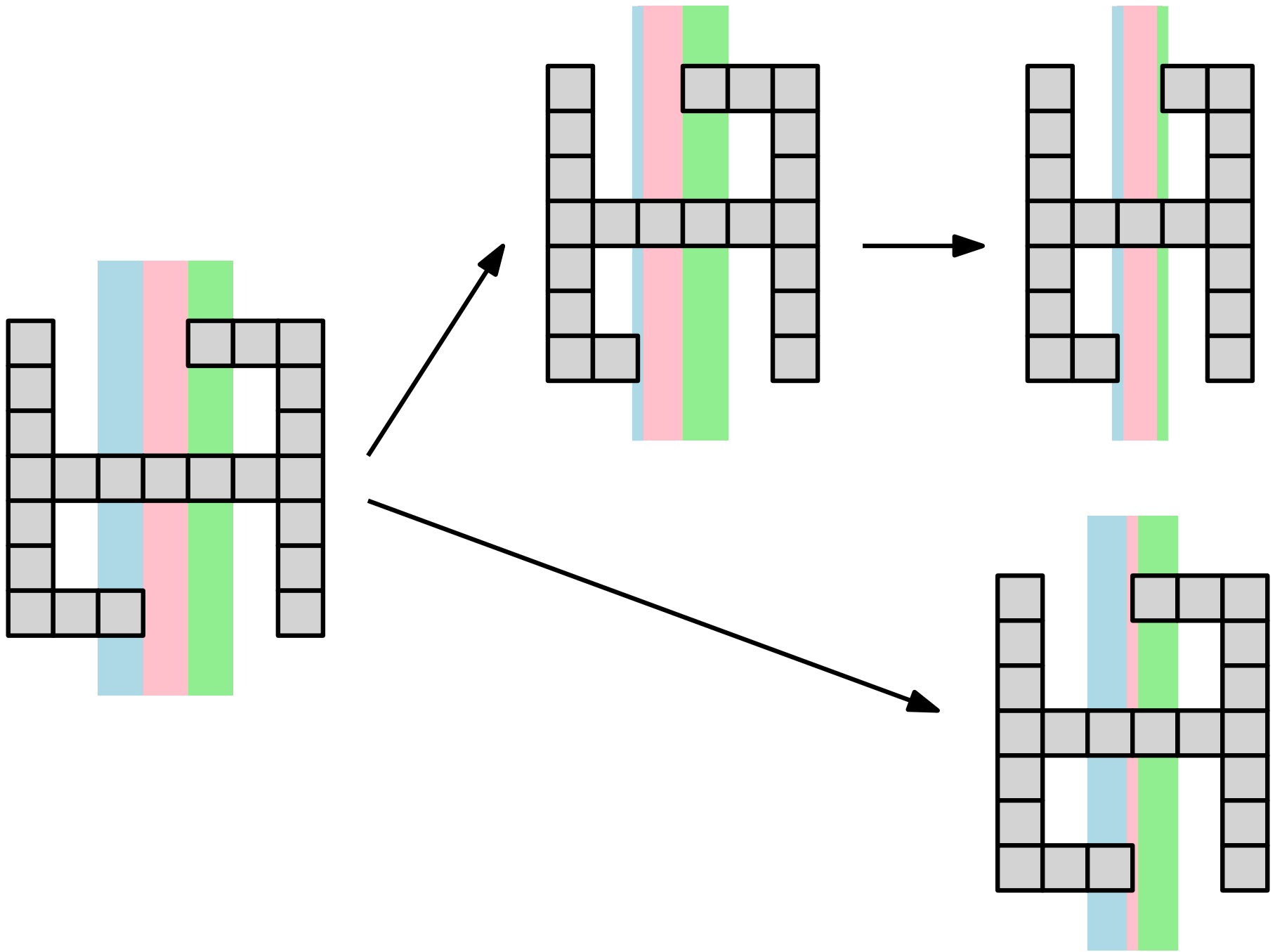


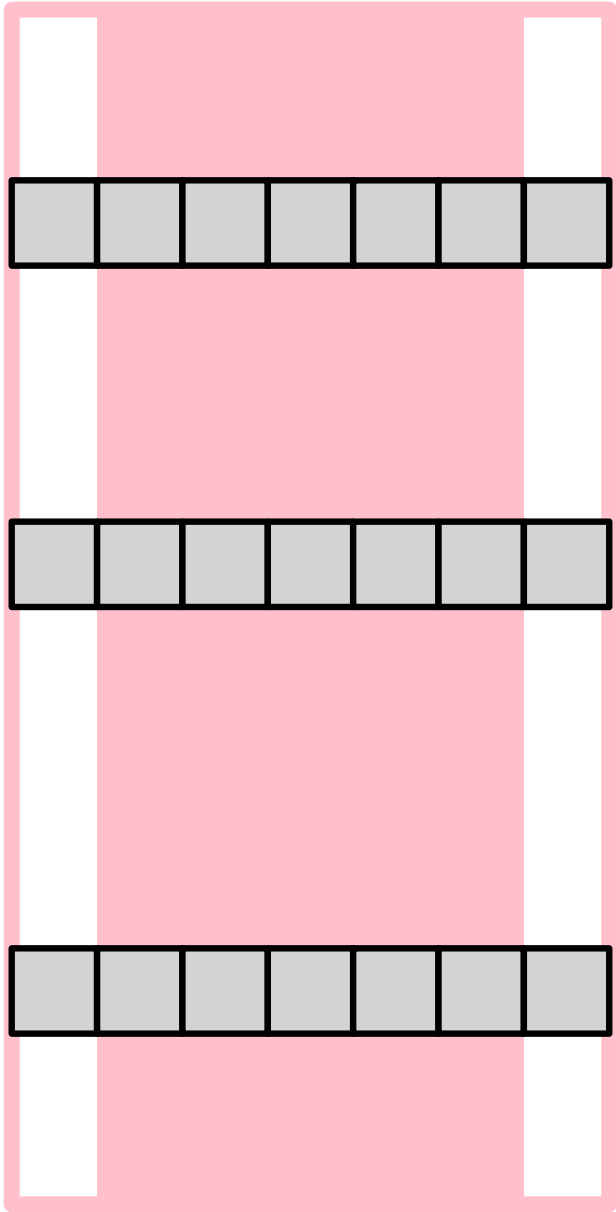


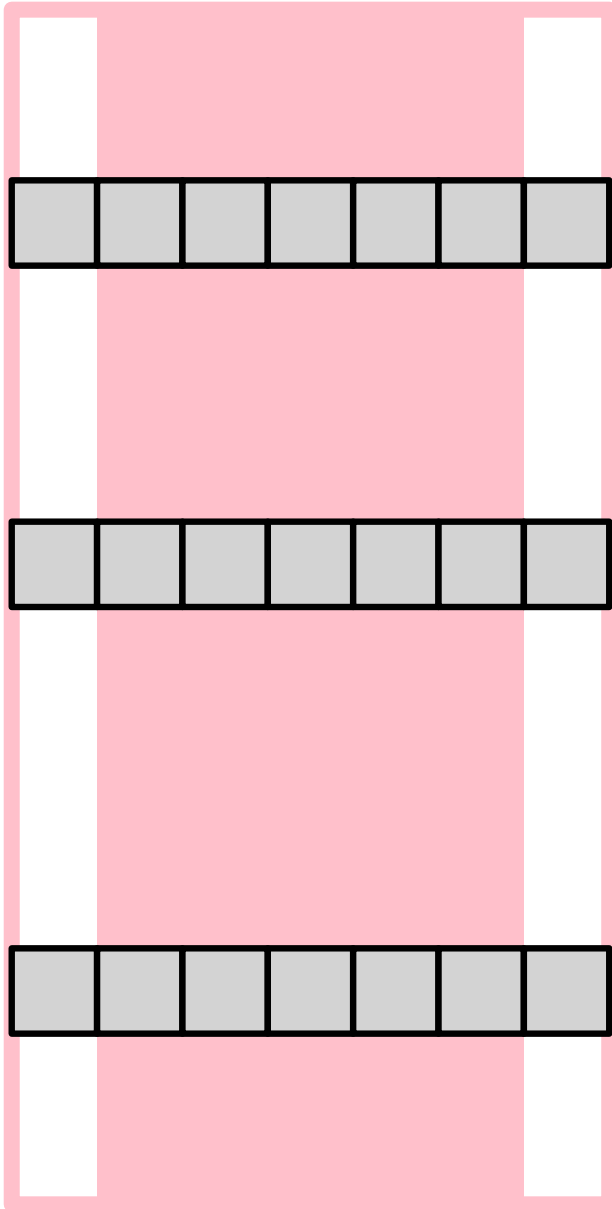












Vertical cut \mathcal{C} :

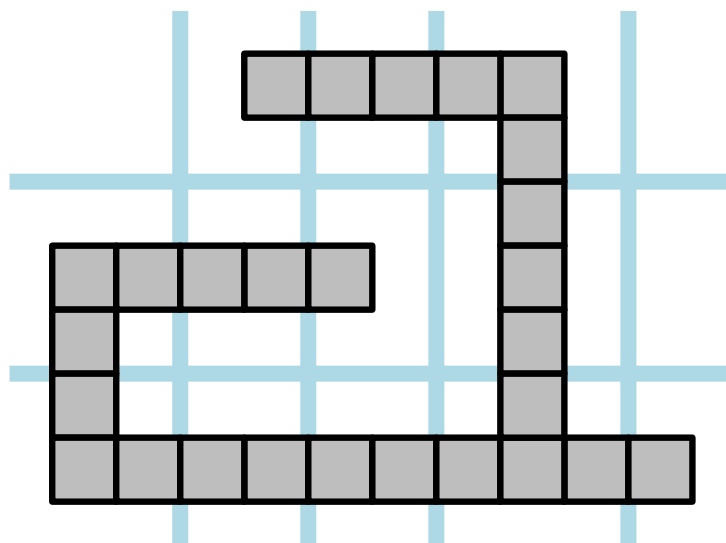
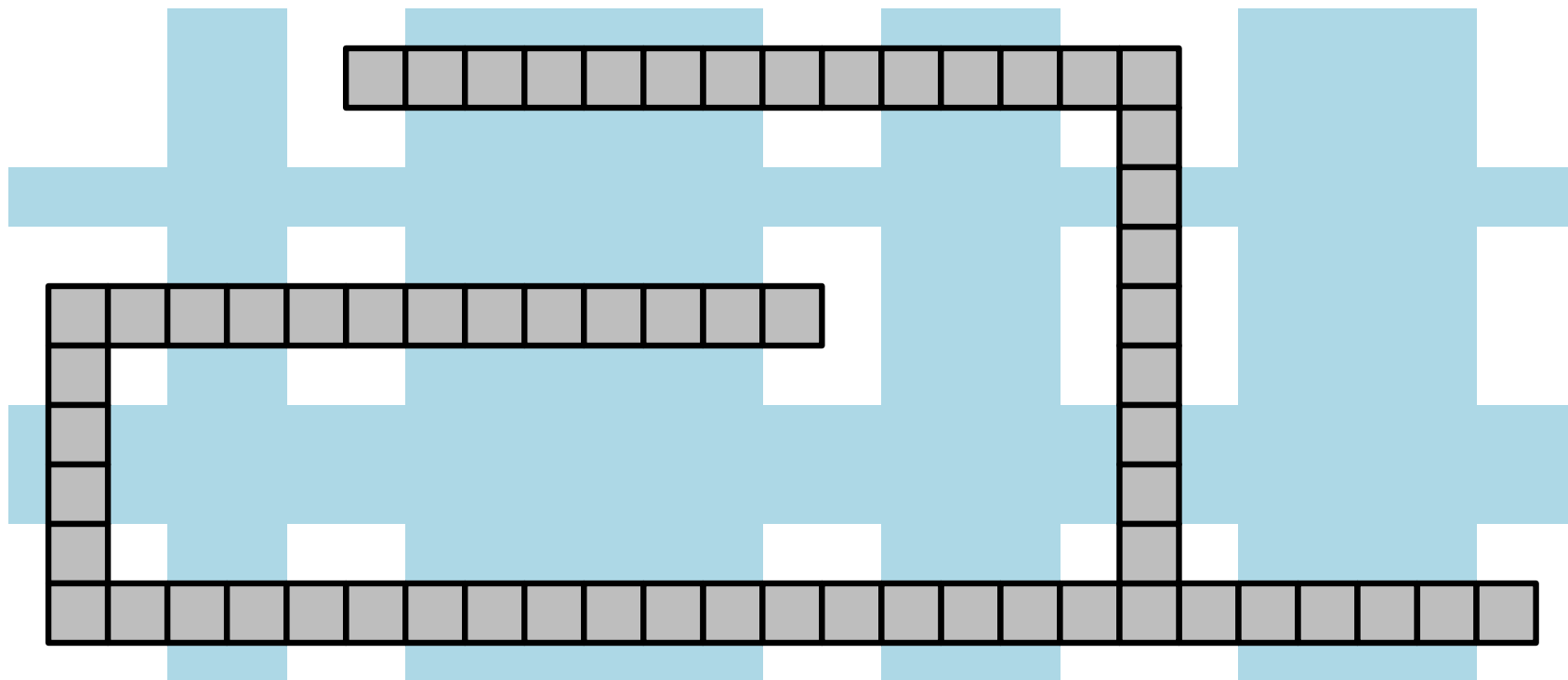
A maximal set of consecutive columns, C_i, \dots, C_j , such that for $\mathcal{C}^* = \{C_{i-1}, \dots, C_{j+1}\}$

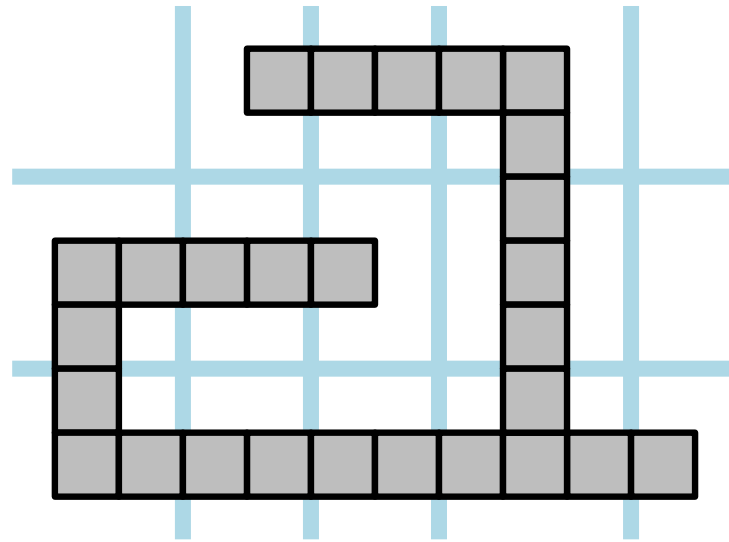
we have

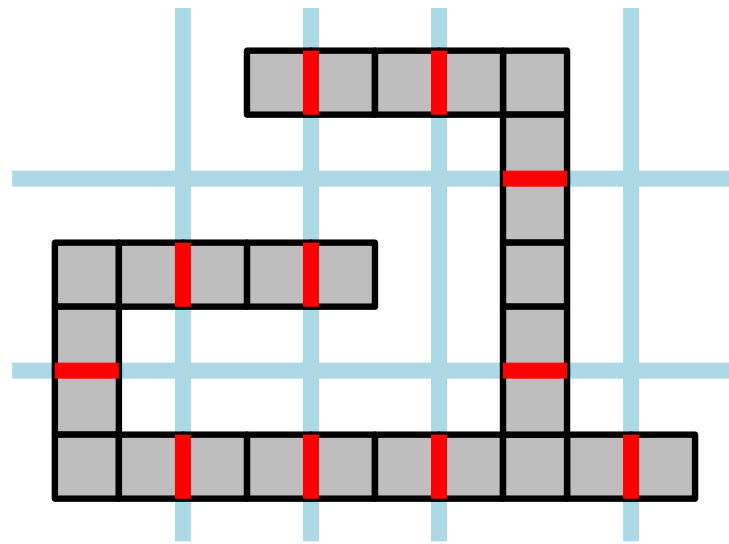
$$P \cap \mathcal{C}^* = \{i-1, \dots, j+1\} \times A,$$

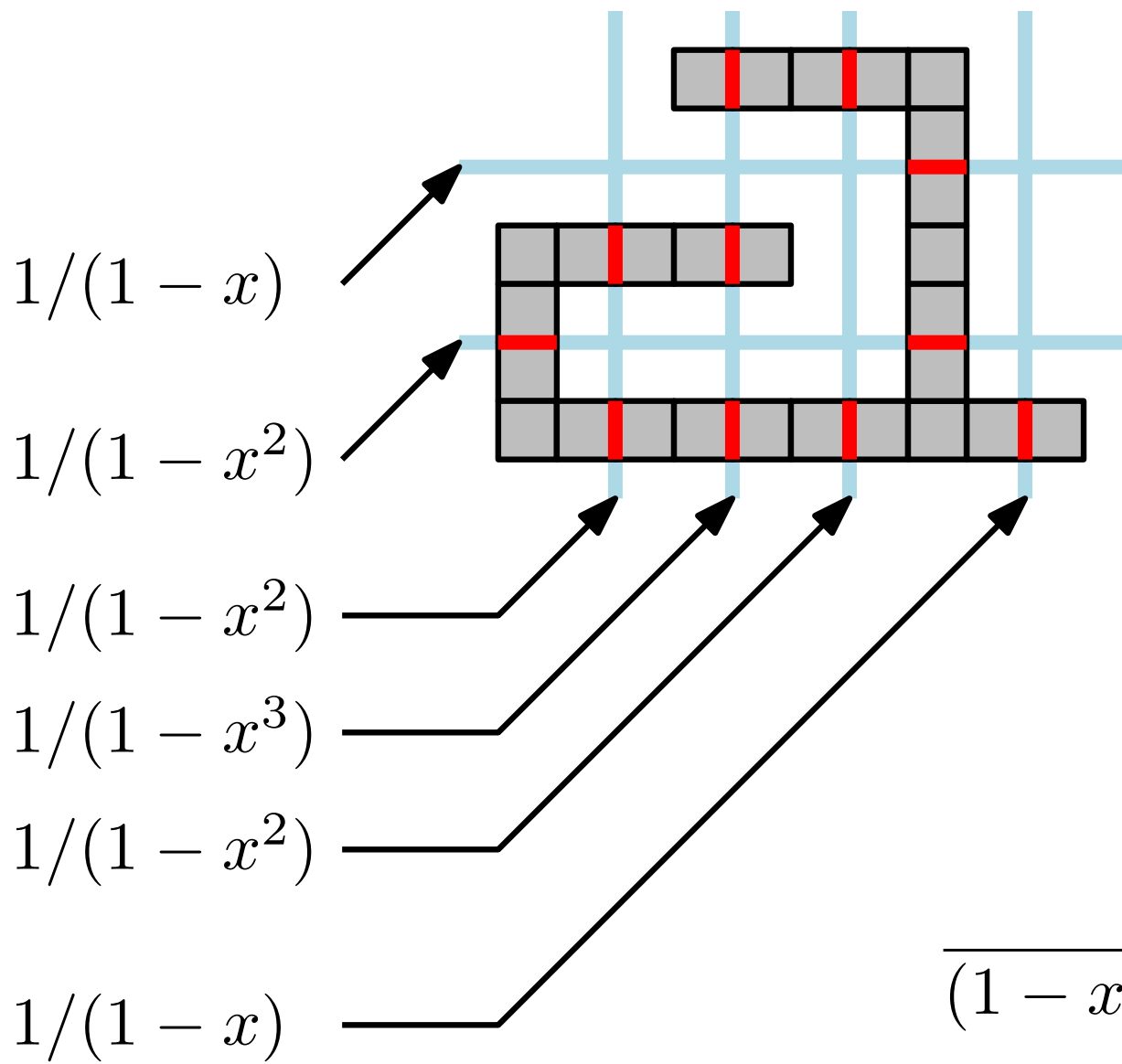
where $A \neq \emptyset$ and

$$a, b \in A, a \neq b \Rightarrow |a - b| \geq 3.$$









$$\frac{x^{27}}{(1-x)^2(1-x^2)^3(1-x^3)}$$

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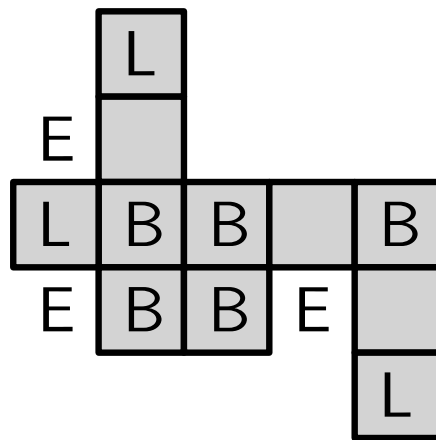
For the proof, we define three kinds of special cells:

1. Excess cells (perimeter cells with non-zero excess),
2. Bend cells (cells of P with at least one pair of non-opposite occupied neighbors),
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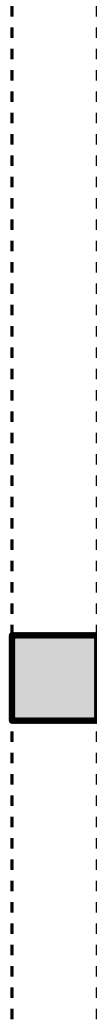
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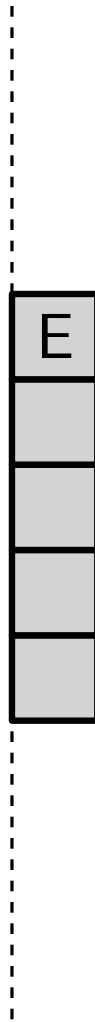
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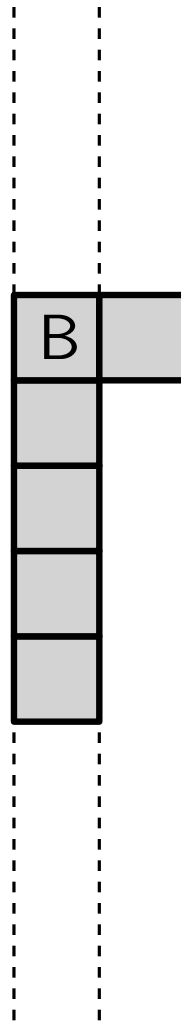
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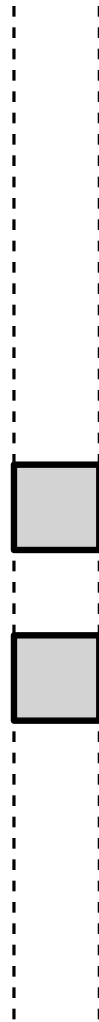
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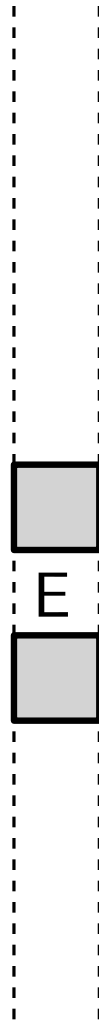
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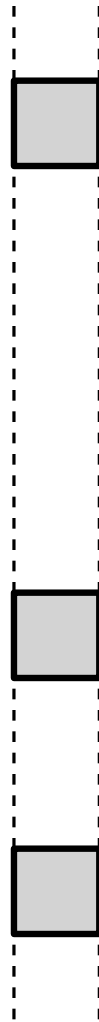
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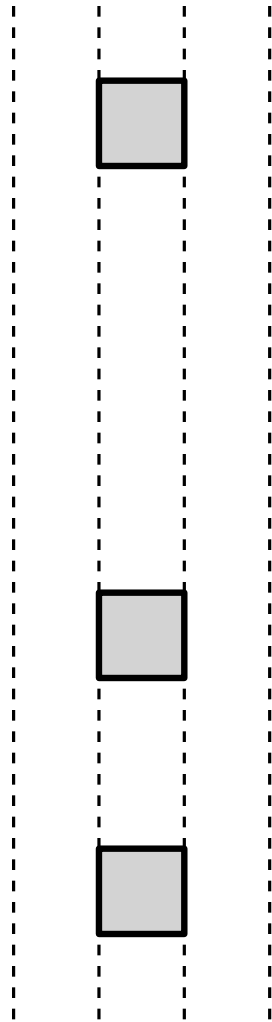
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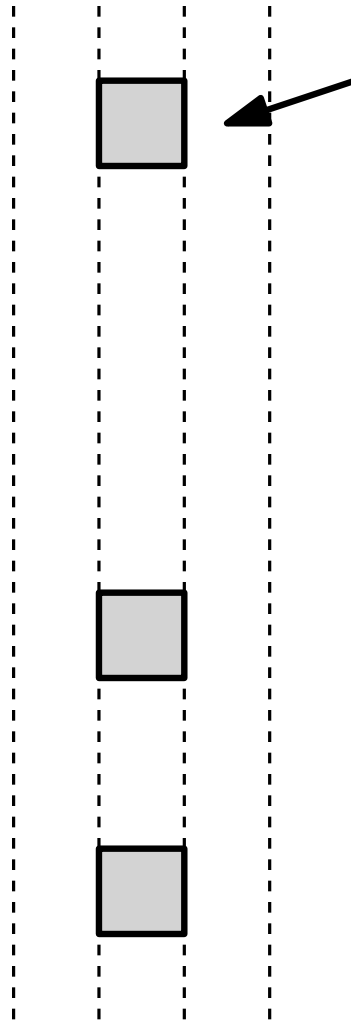
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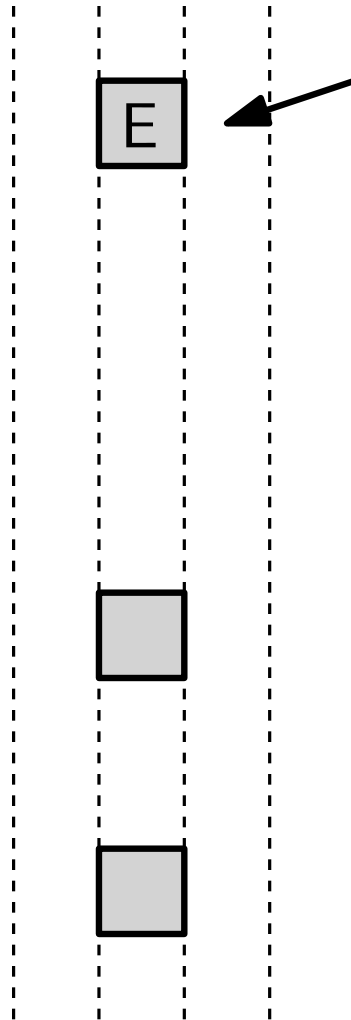
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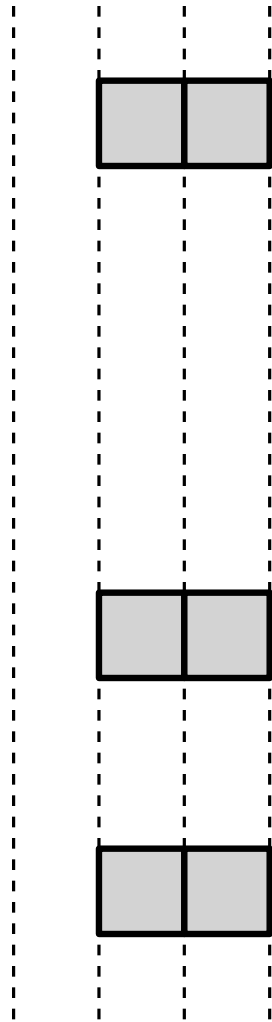
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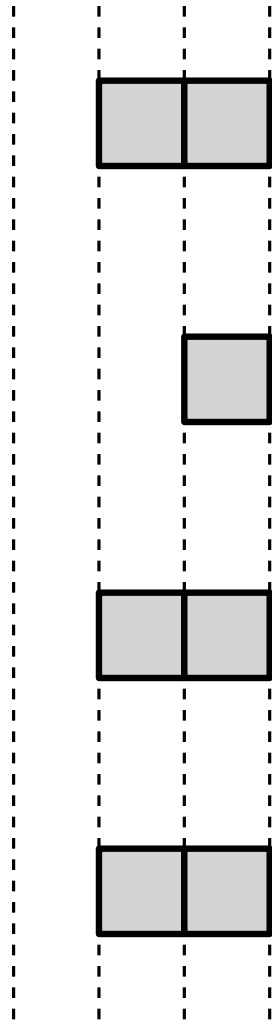
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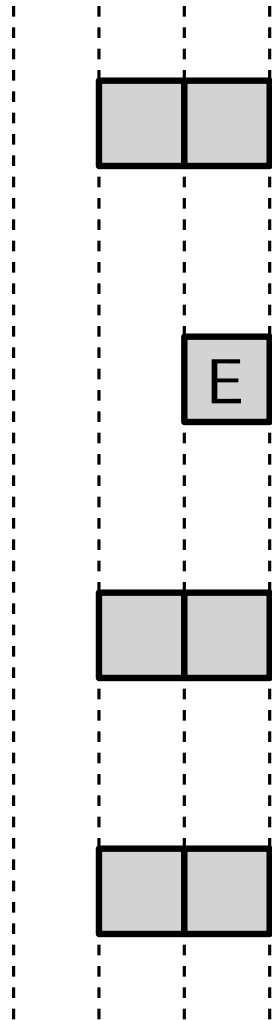
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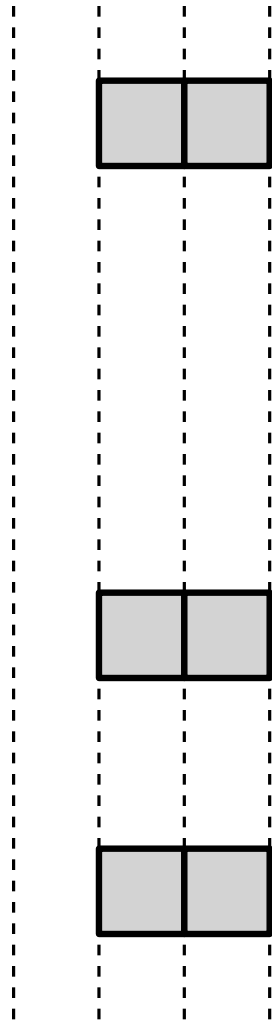
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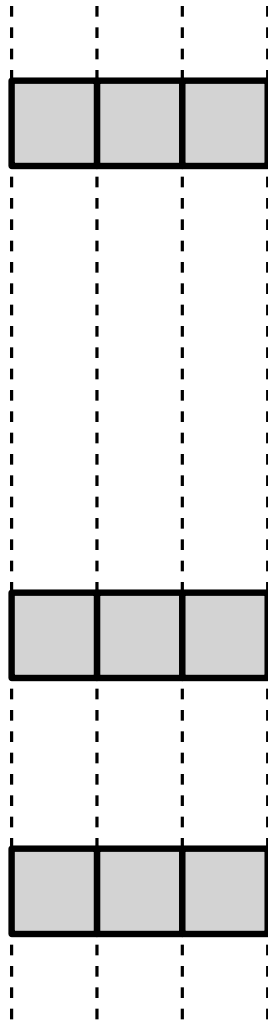
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1. Each excess cells contributes directly to e .
2. Each bend cell contributes directly to e or to f .
3. $|V_1| \leq |V_3| + 2|V_4| + 2$, and each cell of degree 3 or 4 is a bend cell.

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⇒ The number of columns that do not belong to a cut, is bounded.

⇒ All the reduced polyominoes lie in a square of a bounded size.

⇒ There is a finite number of reduced polyominoes.

⇒ There is a finite number of patterns classes.

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For each fixed k , the generating function of $(A(n, 2n + 2 - k))_{n \geq k}$ is rational.

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In the formula $k = e + 2f$, f is the “circuit rank” – the number of edges that must be removed from the graph in order to obtain a tree. It is equal to $|E| - |V| + 1$.)

k	CP
0	$x - 1$
1	$(x - 1)^2$
2	$(x - 1)^3$
3	$(x - 1)^4(x + 1)^2$
4	$(x - 1)^5(x + 1)^3$
5	$(x - 1)^6(x + 1)^4(x^2 + x + 1)$

