

Exhaustive search of convex pentagons which tile the plane

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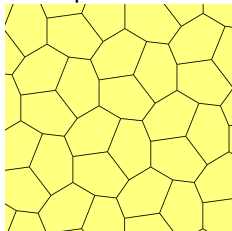
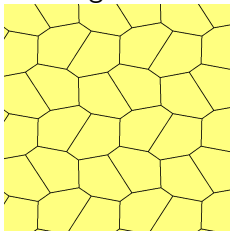
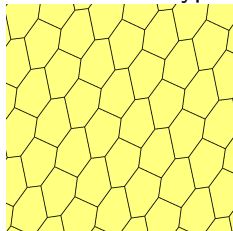
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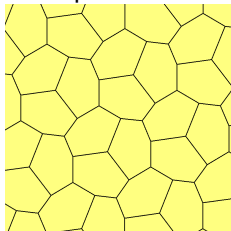
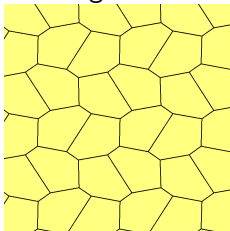
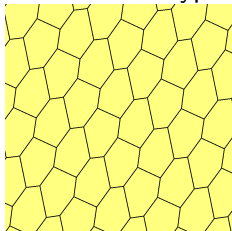
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- Only one open case: Pentagons

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From 1918 to 2015, 15 types of convex pentagons tiling the plane were found:

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- Mann, McLoud & Von Derau (2015): Type 15.

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- a set C_a of linear conditions on angles (form: $v \cdot \alpha = 2\pi$ with $v \in \mathbb{N}^5$)
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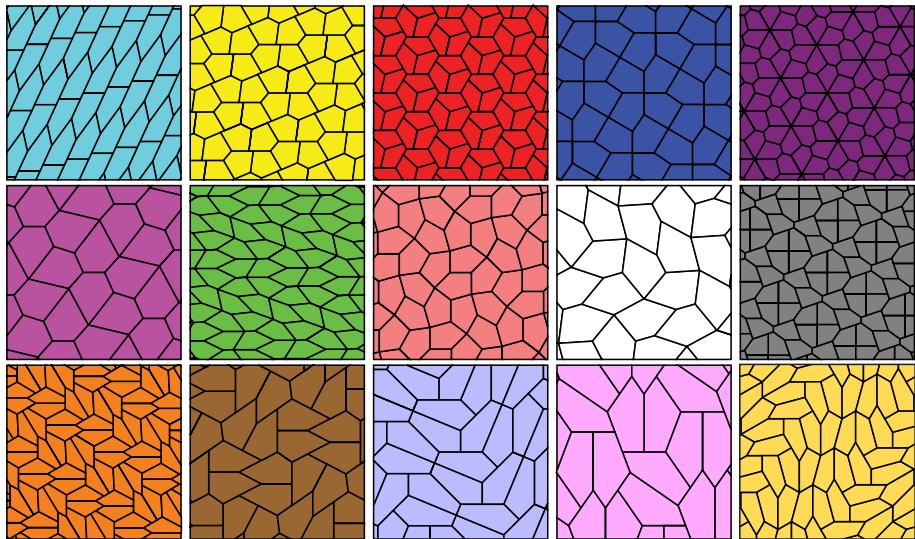
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Examples:

- Type 1: $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = \pi$
- Type 2: $\alpha_1 + \alpha_3 = \pi$ and $\ell_1 = \ell_3$
- Type 4: $\alpha_3 = \alpha_5 = \pi/2$, $\ell_2 = \ell_3$ and $\ell_4 = \ell_5$
- ...



(Wikipedia)

Sketch

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Let \mathcal{P} be a convex pentagon which tiles the plane.

- Part 1: There exist a tiling by \mathcal{P} such that each vertex category has positive density
- The set of vertex category (i.e. conditions implied by angles) must be “good”
- Part 2: There are only 371 good sets to consider
- Part 3: For each good set : we do an exhaustive search
- Result: we found only the 15 known families (and some special cases).

Part 1: positive density tiling and good sets

Let \mathcal{P} be a convex pentagon

- the vertices are s_1, \dots, s_5 , in clockwise order
- the angles are respectively $\alpha_1 \times \pi, \dots, \alpha_5 \times \pi$

$$\forall 1 \leq i \leq 5, \quad 0 < \alpha_i < 1$$

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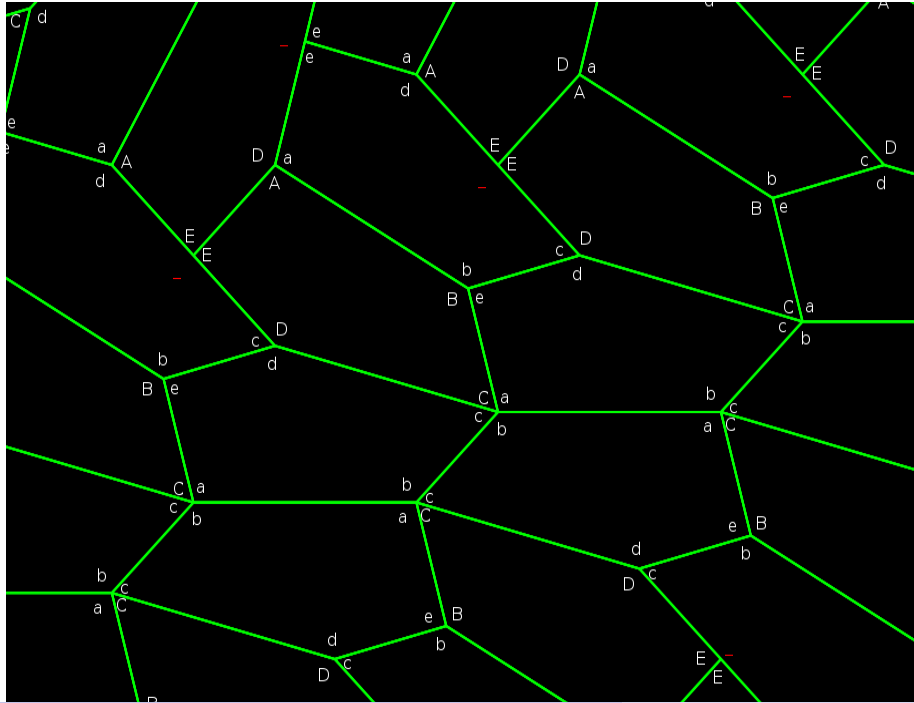
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Let \mathcal{T} be tiling of the plane by \mathcal{P} (we allow rotation/translation/mirror)

(Note: no hypothesis on periodicity / transitivity)



Vector category

Let s be a vertex of \mathcal{T} (i.e. a vertex of one pentagon in \mathcal{T})

The *vector category* of s , denoted $V(s)$, is the vector $v \in \mathbb{N}^5$ s.t. there are v_i angles s_i around s .

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Attention ! Two cases of vertices:

- “Half” : s is in the border of a tile P , but not a vertex of P
- “Full” : s is a vertex of every tile around s

We have to “correct” the vector category of “half” vertices.

Here, for the sake of simplicity, we do not talk about half vertices...

A toy problem

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Can we tile only with v_a and v_b ?

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- By compactness one can construct a tiling without v

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$v_a \cdot u = 0$ $v_b \cdot u = 0$ $v_c \cdot u = 1$ with $u = (1, 0, -1, 0, 0)$
 \Rightarrow density of v_c must be 0

Definition (Good set)

$\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{N}^5$ is *good* if $\forall u \in \mathbb{R}^5$ with $\sum u = 0$, either:

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- $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ is not good, with $u = (1, 0, -1, 0, 0)$
- $\{v_1, v_2\}$ is good since $2 \times u \cdot v_1 + u \cdot v_2 = 0$

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Contradiction since:

$$\sum_{v \in \mathcal{W}} (u \cdot v) \times d_v \geq (u \cdot v^+) \times d_{v^+} > 0$$

Let $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{N}^5$

Definition ($\mathfrak{P}_{\mathcal{X}}$)

$\mathfrak{P}_{\mathcal{X}}$ is the convex polytope of $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_5) \in \mathbb{R}^5$ s.t.

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Spoil: only finitely many...

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We suppose w.l.o.g. that:

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Let $u \in \mathbb{R}^5$ s.t. $\sum u = 0$ and $\forall i$ with $m_i = 0$ then $u_i > 0$

→ the “negative part” in $v \cdot m$ is bounded

→ each v_i must be bounded, otherwise $v \cdot \alpha \geq v \cdot m > 2$.

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For the last condition on $m_{\mathcal{X}}$:

If $m_4 > 0$ and $m_5 = 0$, there is $\alpha' \in \mathfrak{P}_{\mathcal{X}}^{\geq}$ s.t. $\alpha'_5 = 0$

If $m_4 = m_5 = 0$, there is $\alpha' \in \mathfrak{P}_{\mathcal{X}}^{\geq}$ s.t. $\alpha'_4 = \alpha'_5 = 0$

(and take $\alpha \in \mathfrak{P}_{\mathcal{X}}^{\geq} \cap]0, 1[^5$)

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RECURSE always terminates: finitely many good sets with $\mathfrak{P}_{\mathcal{X}}^{\geq} \cap]0, 1[^5 \neq \emptyset$.

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- Keep only one represents for each class up to rotation/mirror, one have the 371 sets.

Good sets: results

371 sets to consider:

- 2 s.t. $\mathfrak{P}_{\mathcal{X}}$ has dimension 3
- 26 s.t. $\mathfrak{P}_{\mathcal{X}}$ has dimension 2
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- 90 of “Type 1” (that is $\alpha_i + \alpha_{i+1} = 1$)

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We backtrack if the conditions (angles and lengths) imply

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- or no convex pentagon exists with these conditions

Backtracking: general idea

The object on which we work and backtrack is a pair (G, Q) :

- G is a embedded planar graph which represent the partial tiling (“Tiling graph”)
- Q is a set of conditions we know on the lengths of the pentagon: *i.e.* a linear program (LP) on $l_1 \dots l_5$

We add linear conditions on sides “on the fly”

Tiling graph

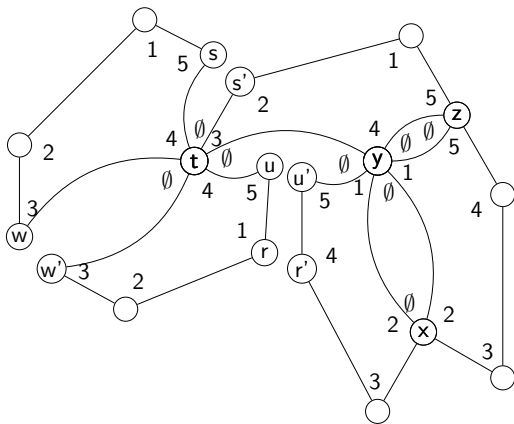
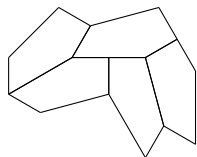
Tiling graph : embedded planar graph with labels on angles and edges

Two types of faces: usual and special

- usual: corresponds to a pentagon in the tiling. The degree is 5, and the angles are marked from 1 to 5 (in CW or CCW)
- special: corresponds to frontier between tiles, or an unknown area of the plane. Angles are marked with \emptyset , π or ?

A special face is *complete* if there no “?”

Tiling graph: example



Example of a tiling graph (Type 15). Unmarked angles are labeled “?”

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- If Q does not permit to decide among the 3 possibilities: $s < s'$, $s = s'$ and $s > s'$, then we branch on the 3 possibilities:

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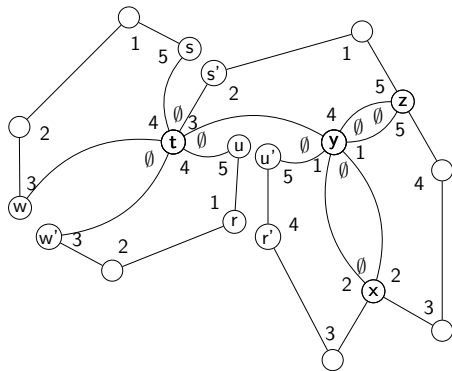
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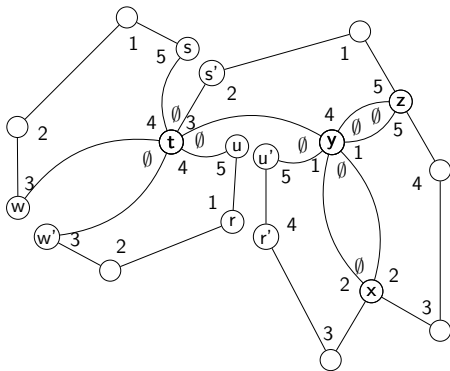
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- If Q does not permit to decide among the 3 possibilities: $s < s'$, $s = s'$ and $s > s'$, then we branch on the 3 possibilities: we add the corresponding condition in Q and recurse

Branching on length suppositions: example



Q :

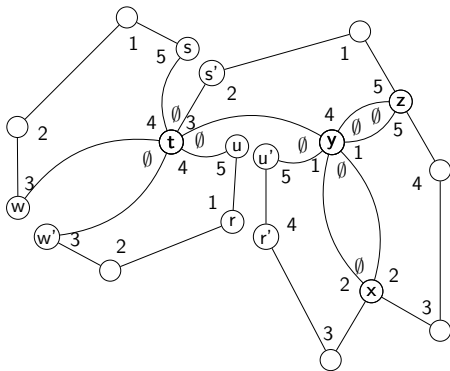
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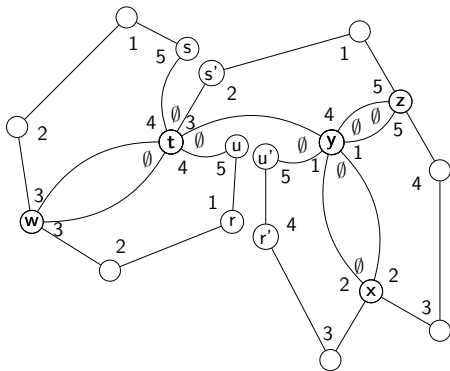


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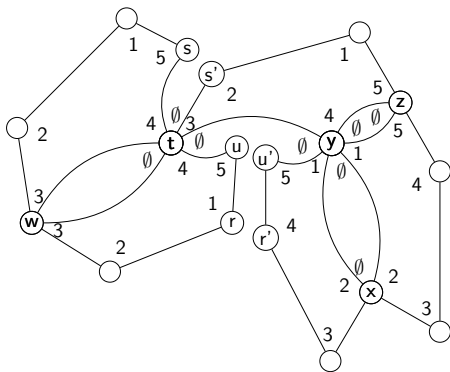


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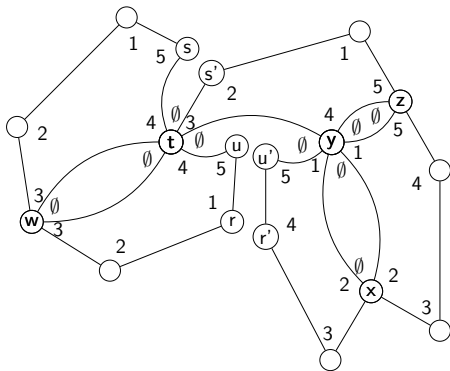


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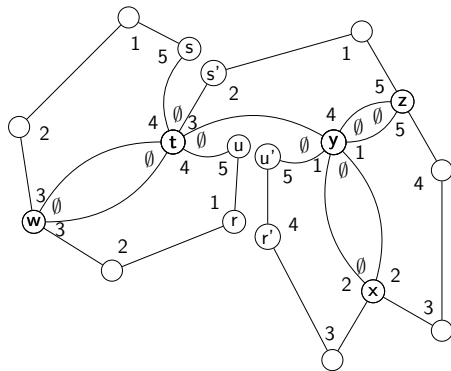


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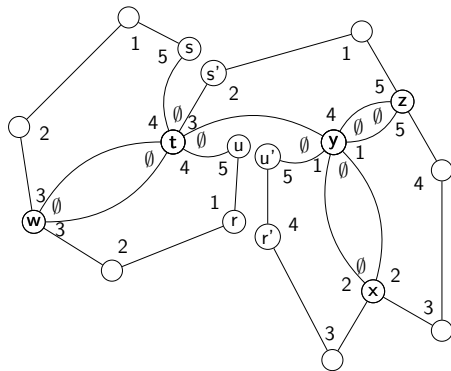
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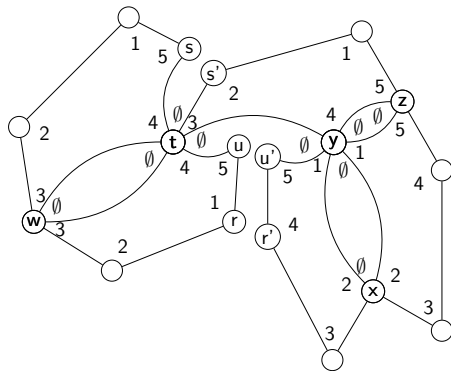
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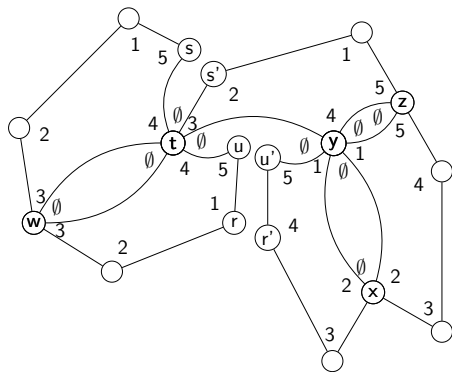


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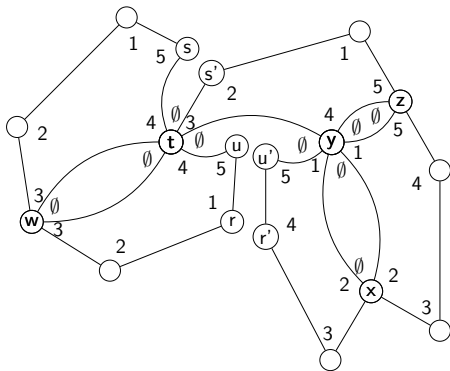


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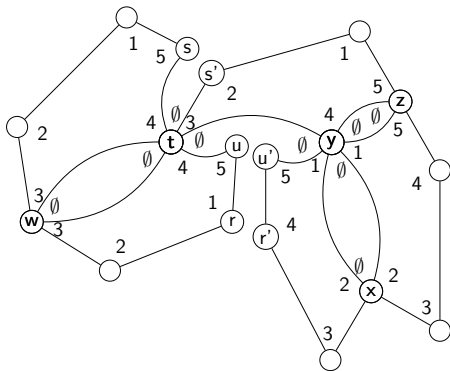
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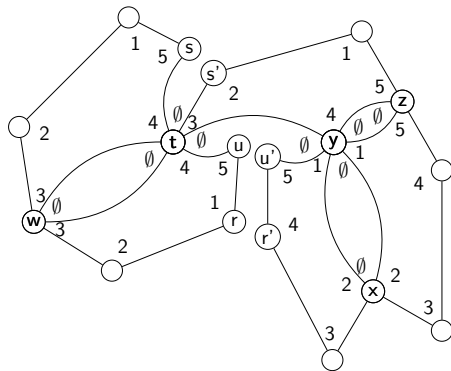
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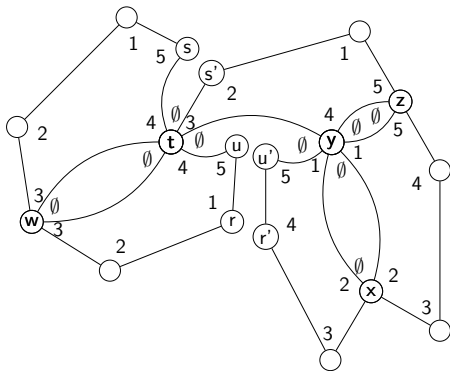
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Branching on length suppositions: example



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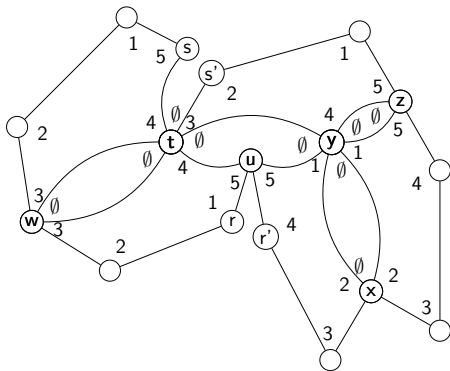
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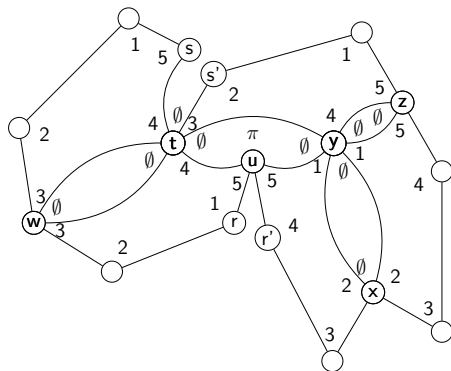
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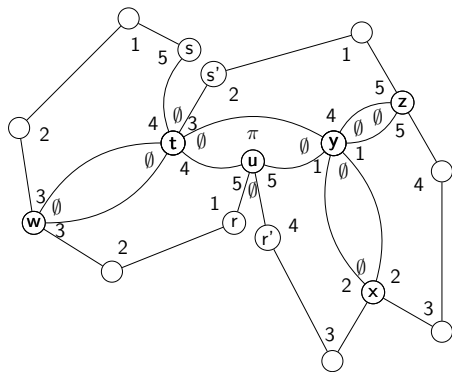
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u is now complete: the angle r, u, r' is labeled \emptyset

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We take a non-complete vertex w in the graph, and we try (branch on) every possibility to add a new face adjacent to w

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Given the LP Q , we denote by Ω the set of solutions ℓ of Q with $\sum \ell = 1$

Let $s(\alpha)$ be the vector such that $s(\alpha)_i = (i - 1) - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \alpha_j$.

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If $\dim(\mathfrak{P}) > 0$: we backtrack if we have a certificate (computations in \mathbb{Q}) that there a no solution. Problem: this cannot detect “degenerate case”. So we manually add some degenerate case. (Types 20 to 24 in Table 1).

Conditions for which we backtrack (Table 1)

Type 1 (i=1)	$a + b + c = 2\pi$		Type 2 (i=2)	$a + b + d = 2\pi$	$C = E$
Type 3 (i=31)	$3e = 2\pi$ $d + 2e = 2\pi$ $b + 2e = 2\pi$	$C + E = D$ $A = B$	Type 4 (i=6)	$a + b + d = 2\pi$ $2e = \pi$	$D = E$ $B = C$
Type 5 (i=4)	$3e = 2\pi$ $a + b + d = 2\pi$	$D = E$ $B = C$	Type 6 (i=13)	$d + 2e = 2\pi$ $a + c + d = 2\pi$	$C = D = E$ $A = B$
Type 7 (i=17)	$d + 2e = 2\pi$ $a + 2c = 2\pi$	$A = C = D = E$	Type 8 (i=14)	$d + 2e = 2\pi$ $2b + c = 2\pi$	$A = B = C = D$
Type 9 (i=15)	$d + 2e = 2\pi$ $2a + c = 2\pi$	$A = B = C = D$	Type 10 (i=69)	$2c + d = 2\pi$ $b + c + e = 2\pi$ $a + 2b = 2\pi$	$A + C = D = E$
Type 11 (i=67)	$c + 2d = 2\pi$ $b + d + e = 2\pi$ $a + 2b = 2\pi$	$A = B = C + 2E$	Type 12 (i=67)	$c + 2d = 2\pi$ $b + d + e = 2\pi$ $a + 2b = 2\pi$	$A + C = B = 2E$
Type 13 (i=63)	$b + 2d = 2\pi$ $a + b + d = 2\pi$ $2e = \pi$	$A = 2B = 2C$	Type 14 (i=67)	$c + 2d = 2\pi$ $b + d + e = 2\pi$ $a + 2b = 2\pi$	$A = B = 2C = 2E$
Type 15 (i=303)	$c + 2d = 2\pi$ $2b + e = 2\pi$ $2a + d = 2\pi$ $2e = \pi$	$B = D = E$ $C = 2B$	Type 16 (i=72) $\subset T_{10}$	$b + c + e = 2\pi$ $2b + d = 2\pi$ $a + 2c = 2\pi$	$2A = D = E$ $A = C$
Type 17 (i=25) $\subset T_2$	$c + 2e = 2\pi$ $2b + d = 2\pi$	$A = B = C = D = E$	Type 18 (i=73) $\subset T_2$	$d + 2e = 2\pi$ $c + 2e = 2\pi$ $b + d + e = 2\pi$	$D = E$ $A = B$
Type 19 (i=23) $\subset T_1$	$c + 2e = 2\pi$ $b + 2d = 2\pi$	$A = B = C = D$	Type 20 (i=2) degen.	$a + b + d = 2\pi$	$A = C + D$ $B = E$
Type 21 (i=12) degen.	$d + 2e = 2\pi$ $2a + b = 2\pi$	$A = B$ $C = D$	Type 22 (i=27) degen.	$c + 2e = 2\pi$ $a + 2d = 2\pi$	$A = B = C = E$
Type 23 (i=64) degen.	$2b + d = 2\pi$ $a + b + d = 2\pi$ $2e = \pi$	$A = 2C = 2D$	Type 24 (i=69) degen.	$2c + d = 2\pi$ $b + c + e = 2\pi$ $a + 2b = 2\pi$	$2D = A + C$ $2E = A + C$

Part 3: Results

For every family, the exhaustive search is finite

That is: if a pentagon does not respect condition of Type i for a $i \in \{1, \dots, 24\}$, then it cannot tile the plane.

- Types 1 to 15 are the already known families
- Types 16 to 19 are special cases of known families
- Types 20 to 24 are “degenerate” ($\dim(\mathfrak{P}) > 0$): there are no convex pentagons which respects these conditions

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- Search for an aperiodic polygon (“Ein-stein” tile) ?

