

Shapes in Action 2020 Sept 15th

Some tools to analyze symmetries



Program schedule for Sept 15th

- **15:15 Feedback from picture analysis exercise**
- How to look planar patterns from math perspective ?
- 16:00 Break
- 16:15 Some tools to analyze regular tilings
- 17:00 Break
- 17:15 Laura: Group Work Instructions & testing Breakout rooms



Essential concepts we had so far

Symmetry (group) : =actions that preserve the given pattern in the given geometry.

Consider today only patterns in the plane.

Given geometry = standard Euclidean plane.

Actions := rigid motions (=*isometries*) of the plane:

- Translations
- Rotations with respect to a point
- Reflections with respect to a line

And all possible *combinations* of those.



How to count each operation only once?

Ex: Two consecutive reflections create rotation



- Only reflection lines explain the whole symmetry pattern
- all edges of the highlighted rectangle are different
- All vertices of the highlighted rectangle are different



- Three different types of (genuine) rotation points of order three (=120 degree rotations)
- No reflection lines
- Parallelogram in the picture has only two different edges

2.



- No rotation points
- No reflection lines
- Two different translations generate the whole pattern
- Highlighted rectangle has only two different edges

3.



For this type of symmetry no unique way to choose a representative for a parallelogram 'spanning' the pattern



 Four different rotation points of order two (=180 degree rotations)

4.

• No reflection lines



- Two types of reflection lines
- One (genuine =not produced by consecutive reflections) rotation point of order two



- Only one type of reflection line: Two black lines in the picture are the same up to rigid motion
- Between the lines also mirror images that are not caused by a mirror line
- => Blue horizontal arrows cutting the shape have opposite orientation

Symmetries of planar patterns

Goal : Signature/Orbifold notation due to B. Thurston and J.H. Conway (90[^])

- What are the patterns in plane that are covered ?
- Intro to the notation
- Concepts 'fundamental domain' and 'orbifold' of a tiling
 Classification up to symmetry = rigid motions acting on given geometry





Classification of infinite repeating patterns. Need two (linearly) independent directions.





Planar patterns that are not covered by Thurston & Conway classification



- Penrose rhombuses
- Non-periodic tiling

Sub Rosa by Markus Rissanen





Quasiperiodic tilings of arbitrary order

Voderberg's monohedral tiling (1936)





Other spiraling monohedral tilings





Marjorie Rice non-periodic tiling (70')



Combination of two pentagons





Prismatic Pentagonal Tiling

Cairo Pentagonal Tiling



Ingredients of the Thurston-Conway Signature/Orbifold notation

Goal: find unique names for the regular pattern classes that can be found by analysing pictures





Star * (in the signature notation) denotes a *mirror* or *kaleidoscopic symmetry* = reflection with respect to a line.

Star alone means: there is one (and only one) single line of mirror symmetry.





Point •

Point • indicates that all the symmetries fix a point
'Star two point symmetry' *2• (=period two kaleidoscopic symmetry
fixing a point) *8•, *1• = *•, •= no symmetry (except trivial)





Gyrations=rotations with respect to a point

'Period three gyrational point symmetry'= 3•, 2•, 4•, 6•, 1•= •= no symmetry (except trivial)





Finite rosette patterns (2D point groups)

Classification: Can be described by *signatures* *N• and N•, N=1,2,3,...









Frieze patterns

Classification: 7 types (will see a bit later)













Interpretation as a frieze pattern (from Laura's earlier slides)



Aalto University



Signatures for plane patterns through *local* symmetries: *632

- 6 lines
 of reflection
 3 lines of
 reflection
- 2 lines of reflection







An example from Laura's presentation Sept 8th

'Designers module/tool' to construct patterns





 reflection lines bound the fundamental domain (paralellogram below) meeting in four different types of vertices
 => *2222



Different pattern - exactly the same symmetry as the previous one



Aalto University

*2222

Again *2222

Aalto University

A

*2222

Picture by Toni Monahan: Detail from Väre

Ignore colour differences/details in bricks and cement

4 different rotation points of order two

2222

Describing kaleidoscopes with possible rotations

- Draw all mirror lines (=lines of reflection)
- Find the fundamental domain of the kaleidoscope
- How many lines meet at each vertex? => Local symmetries of form *N
- Find rotationally symmetric point (non-kaleidoscopic)

Kaleidoscopic vertices are of the *same type* if they have same number of reflection lines **and** they can be interchanged by a rigid motion (=translation, reflection)

3*3 means: one rotation point of order 3, one vertex with 3 reflection lines

Fundamental domain spanned by

- A segment of a red reflection line
- one rotation point of order 4

2*22

More mirrors *: What is the number of different kinds of reflection lines?

What is the fundamental domain of these ?

Signature **

What is the signature of this ?

Find a piece that is repeated between the reflection lines

Note the info on the boundary to get the whole tiling from the fundamental domain

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One reflection line and a Miracle x

X : between the reflection lines (of the same type) two oppositely oriented patterns that can be connected with a path without crossing the lines

The signature of this pattern Is ***x**

How to choose the fundamental domain ?

Note again the info on the boundary (compare to the previous pattern)

The signature of this pattern

Signature *x

Two Miracles xx . What is the fundamental domain?

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Home work by Tue 22nd

New pictures in file Pictures220920.pdf

Please

- 1. Find the signature of the pattern
- 2. Find a Fundamental domain for the pattern

Possible group work after Laura's instructions

- 1. Introduce yourself to your group mates
- 2. Discuss about your experience so far
- 3. Share your textile workshop outcomes and thoughts about them

Note: Updated (14.9) group list in the file in MyCourses front page

