



The Erdős distinct distance problem asks for the number of distinct distances determined by n points in the Euclidean plane.

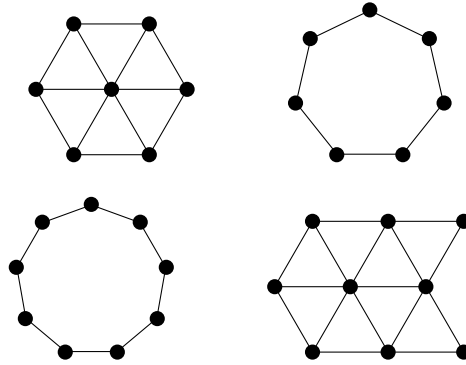


Figure 1: Sets with 3 and 4 distinct distances on 7 and 9 vertices respectively. There are no larger sets with an equal or smaller number of vertices.

Question. If n points are constrained to the grid \mathbb{Z}^2 , what is the minimal number of distinct distances?

Related.

1. How many such figures?
2. What if the figures are constrained to some subset of \mathbb{Z}^2 , e.g. $[n] \times [n]$?
3. What about on other grids (triangular, hexagonal, etc)?
4. Can this be meaningfully done on more exotic topologies, e.g. \mathbb{Z}_n^2 ?
5. What about \mathbb{Z}^n for $n > 2$? What is the asymptotic behavior?
6. What if distance is measured via d_1 , d_3 , or d_∞ ?

References.

Problem 30.

<https://oeis.org/A186704>: Erdős distinct distance problem.