



Consider convex polygons with integer coordinates. The notion of a best Diophantine approximation can be generalized to equilateral triangles by saying that a triangle is a better diophantine approximation if the ratio of the largest side to the smallest side is less than the ratio of any other triangle with smaller perimeter.

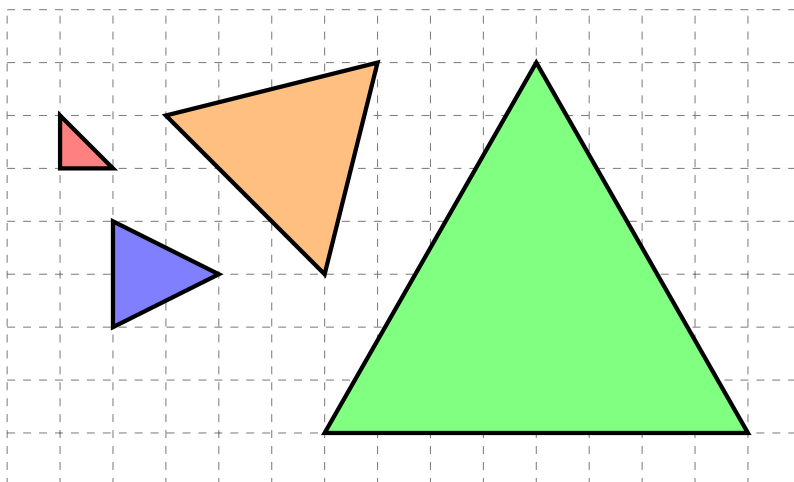


Figure 1: Four best (?) Diophantine approximations of an equilateral triangle. The red triangle has a ratio of $\sqrt{2/1} \approx 1.41$, the blue has a ratio of $\sqrt{5/4} \approx 1.118$, the orange has a ratio of $\sqrt{18/17} \approx 1.029$, and the green has a ratio of $\sqrt{64/63} \approx 1.008$.

Question. What is the growth of the perimeter of the k -th best Diophantine approximation of an equilateral triangle as a function of k ?

Related.

1. How can this be generalized in a reasonable way to regular n -gons? (Just looking at side lengths isn't enough—angles can behave badly.)
2. What if this is done on tetrahedra?

References.

<https://math.stackexchange.com/q/2251555/121988>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Near-miss_Johnson_solid