

COMP20050 - Software Engineering Project II

Hexagonal Grids: Design and Implementation

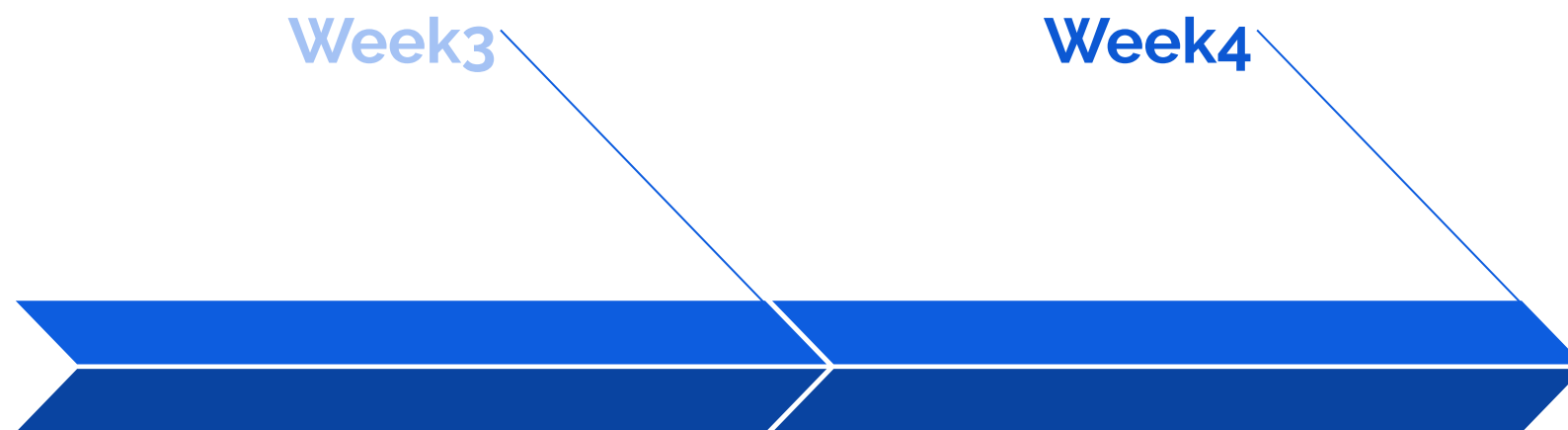
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UCD.

COMP20050 - Week 3 & 4



Teamwork and Agile

Hexagonal Grids

Scrum Software
Development
Methodology

Introduction to JavaFX



Outline (Learning Objectives)

- Understand the **orientation** and **coordinate systems** used for hexagonal grids.
- Understand a **Java implementation** of hexagonal grids constructed using cubic coordinate system.



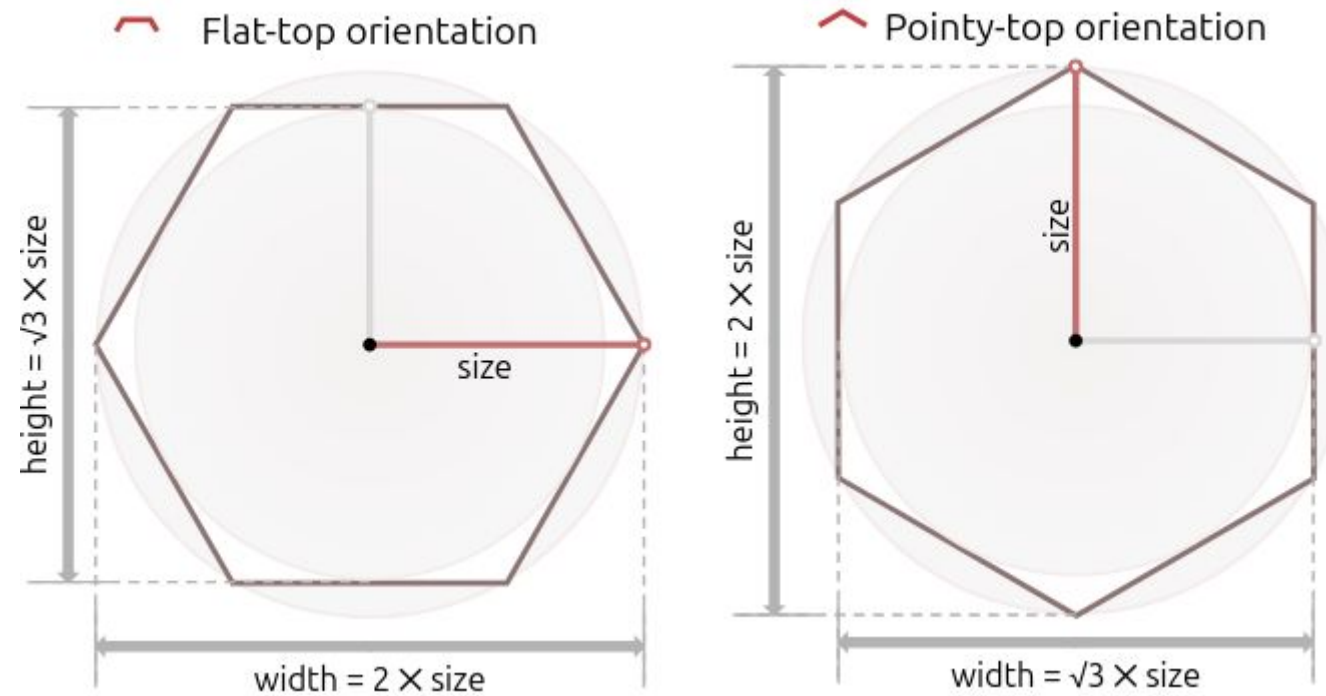
Resources

<https://www.redblobgames.com/grids/hexagons/>

<https://www.redblobgames.com/grids/hexagons/implementation.html>

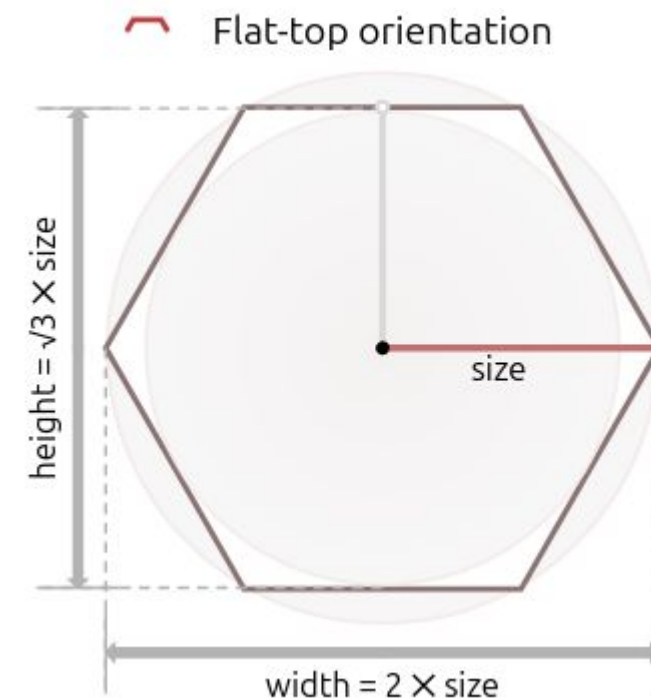
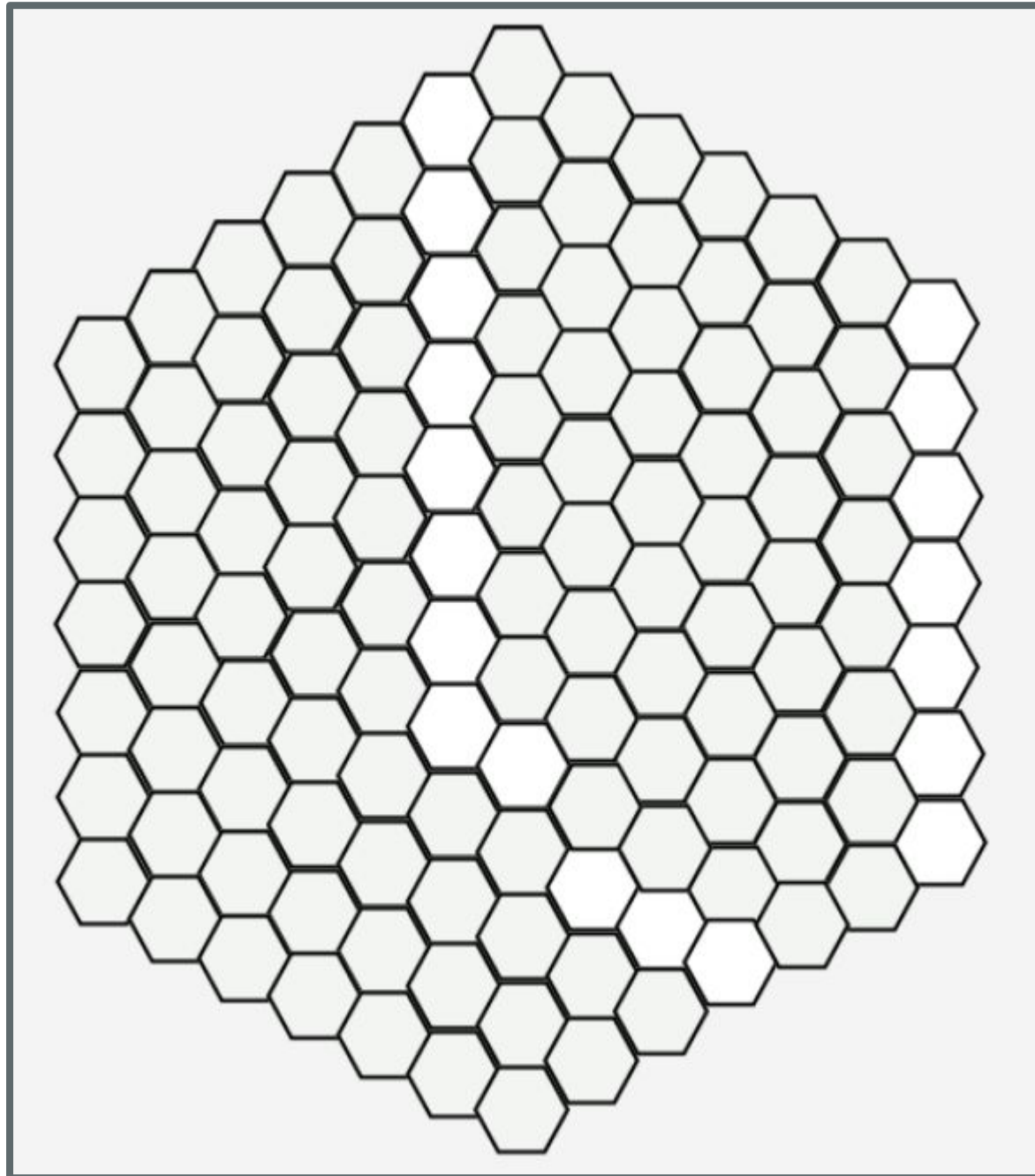


Hexagon Orientation



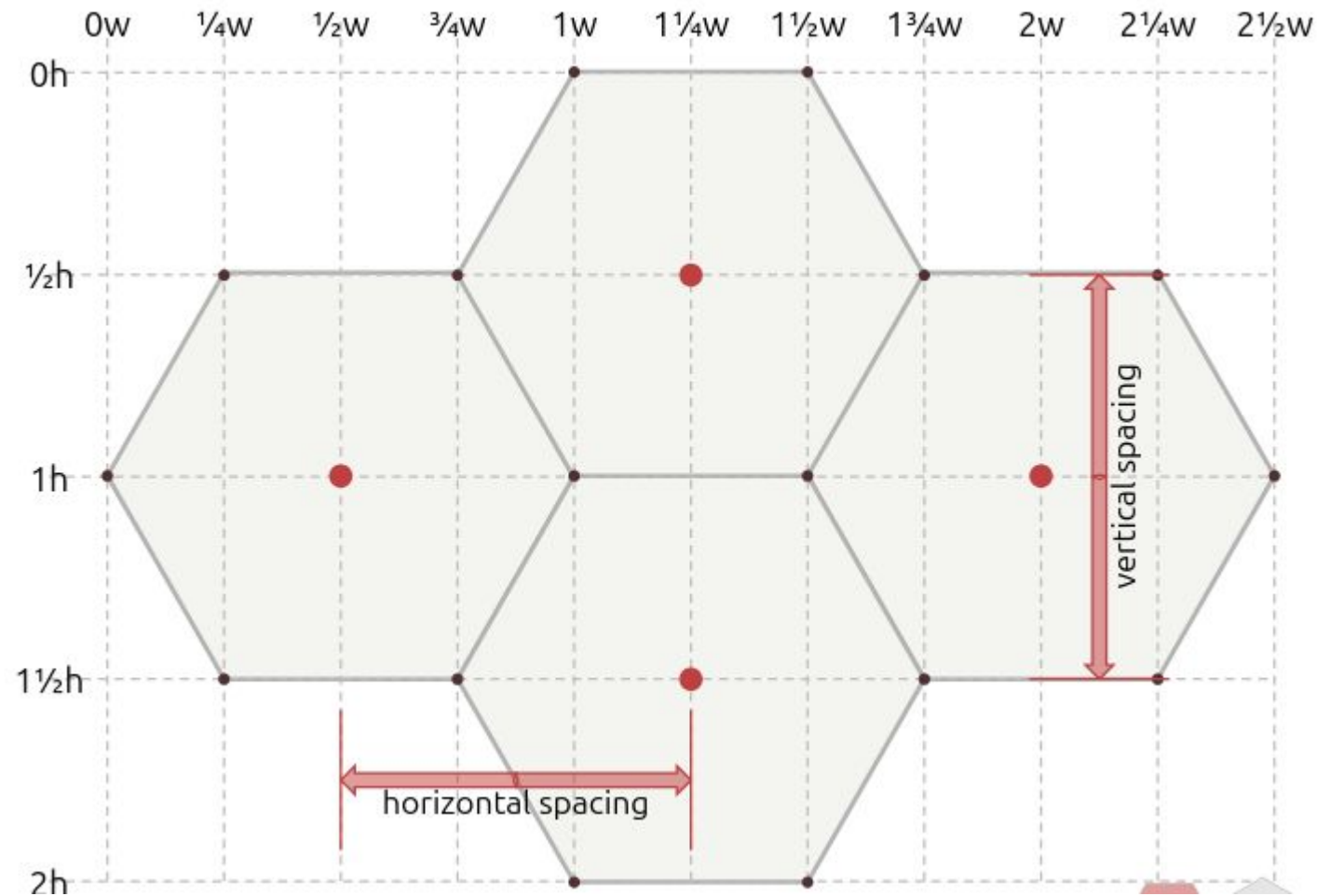
- **Flat top** or **Pointy top** orientations of hexagons in 2D games.

HexOust Hexagons



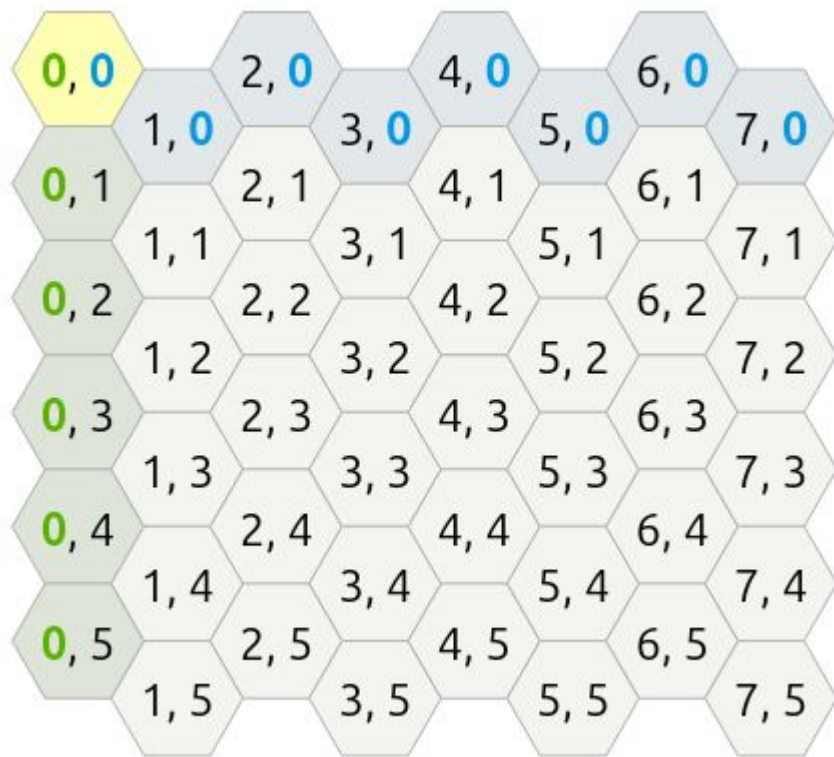
- HexOust hexagons have **flat top** orientation.
- All hexagons have the same **size**, **width**, and **height**.
- **size** = Radius of the outer circle
width = $2 \times \text{size}$
height = $\sqrt{3} \times \text{size}$

Spacing Between Flat Top Hexagons

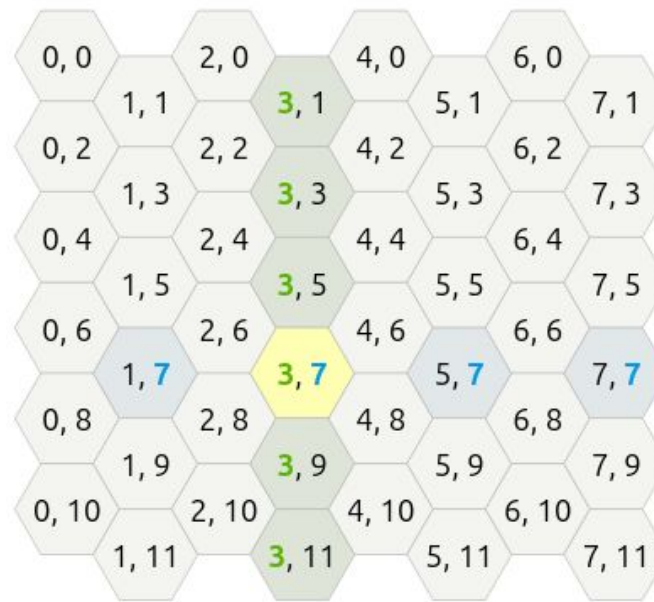


- Horizontal distance between adjacent hexagons (centers) = $\frac{3}{2} * \text{size}$.
- Vertical distance between adjacent hexagons (centers) = $\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} * \text{size}$.

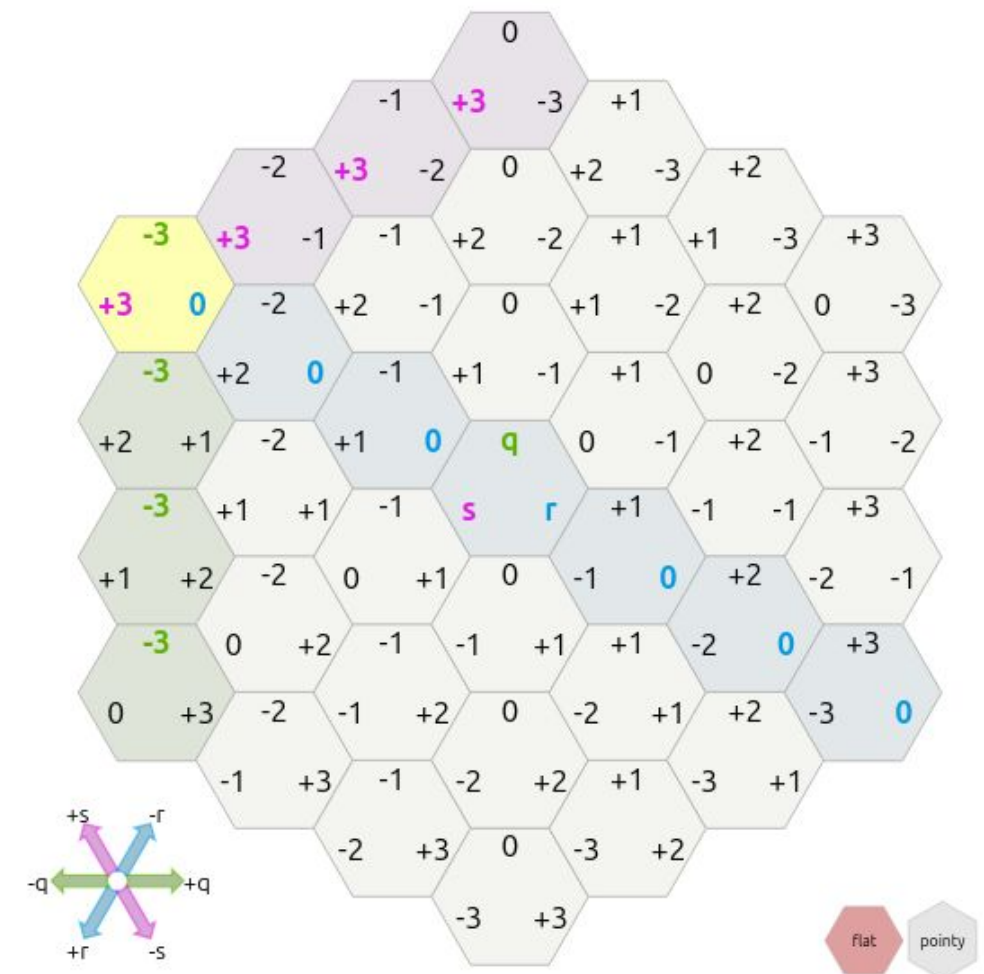
Flat Top Hexagonal Grid: Coordinate Systems



Offset



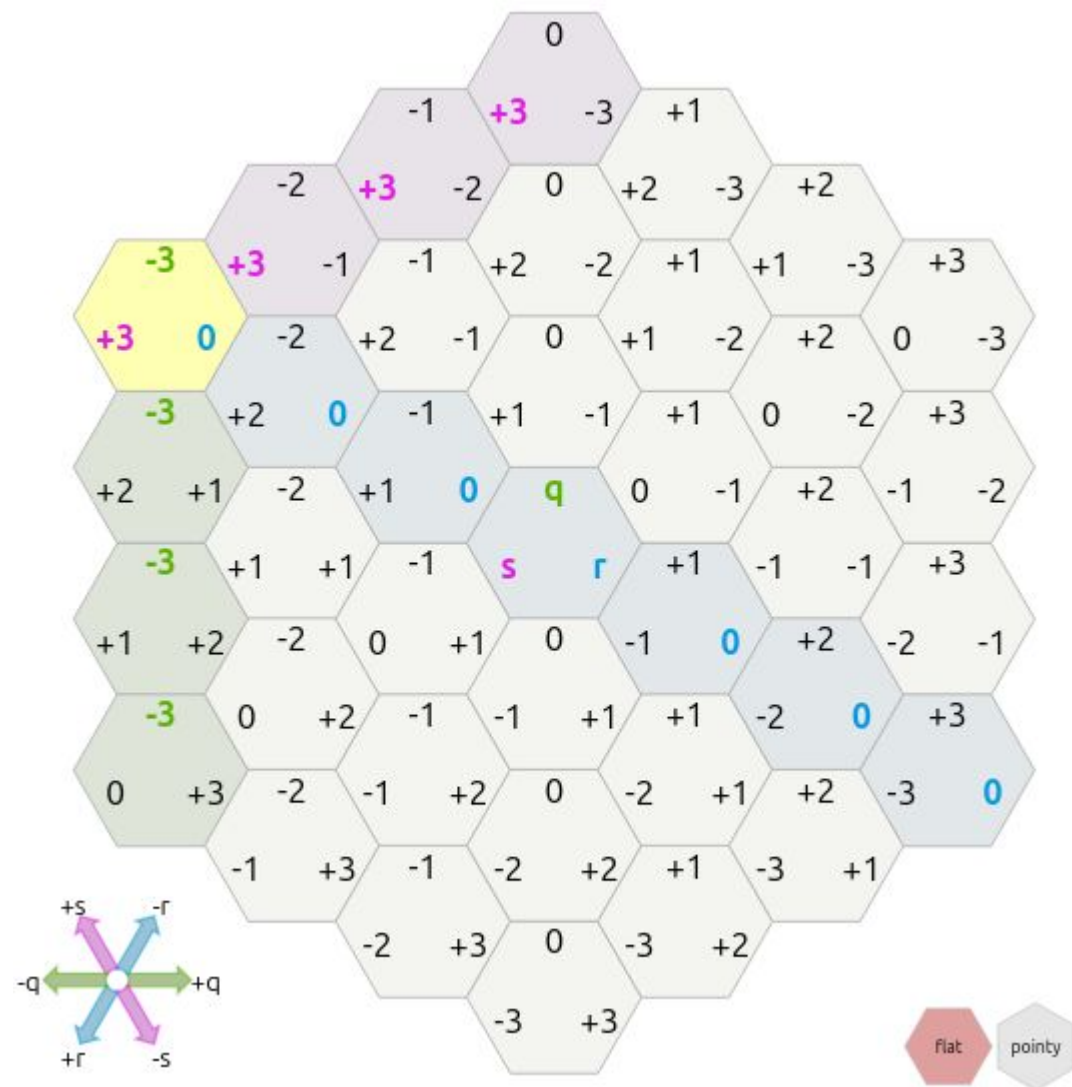
Doubled



Cube/axial

- There are several coordinate systems that you can use for a hexagonal grid with different tradeoffs for storage and complexity of algorithms.
- A good coordinate system can simplify storage and algorithms such as finding neighbours, intersecting ranges, rotation, and reflection.

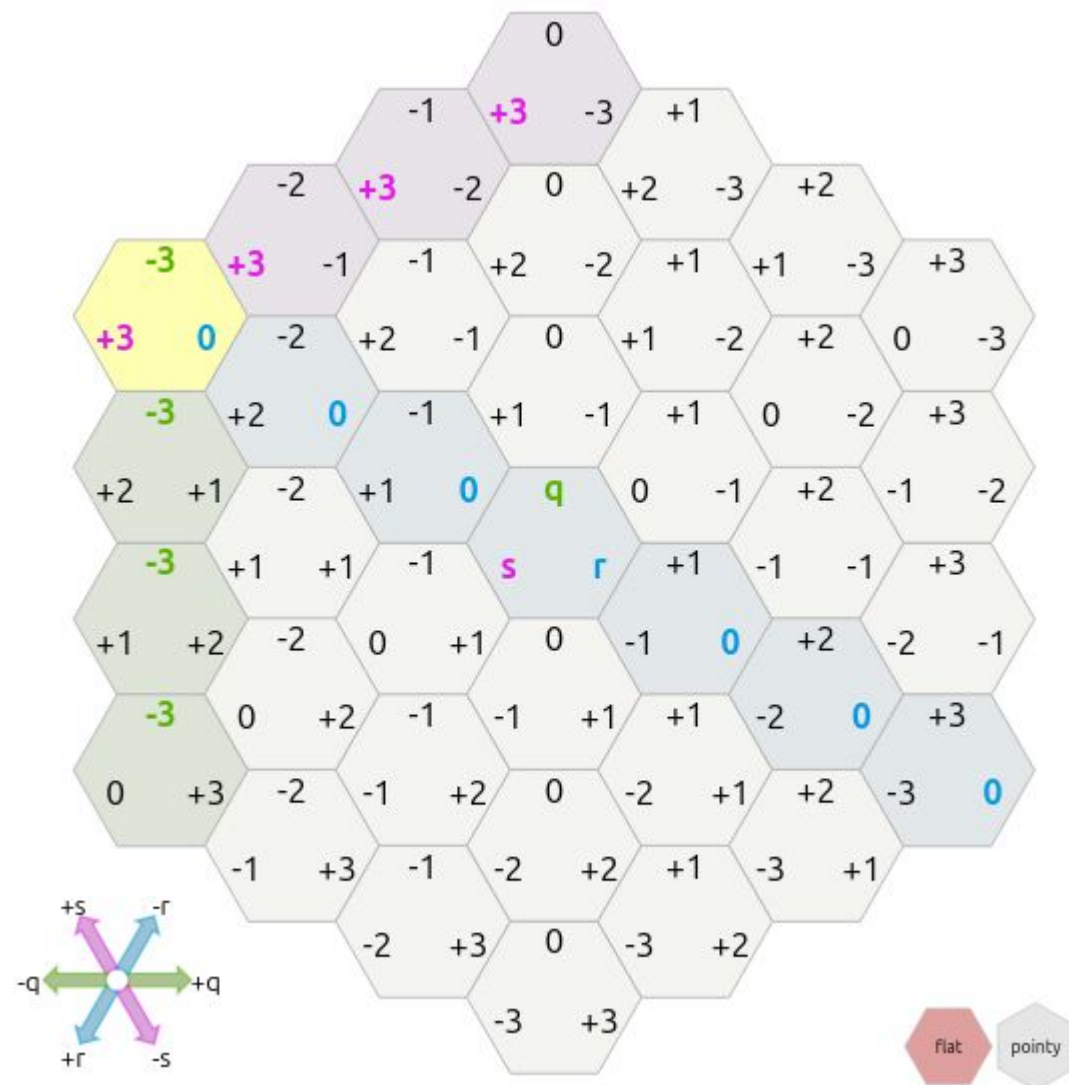
Cube Coordinate System (1/2)



Cube/axial

- I would recommend **cube/axial coordinate system**. It simplifies algorithms such as distances and finding neighbours.
- *However, it is not mandatory that you use this coordinate system in this project.*

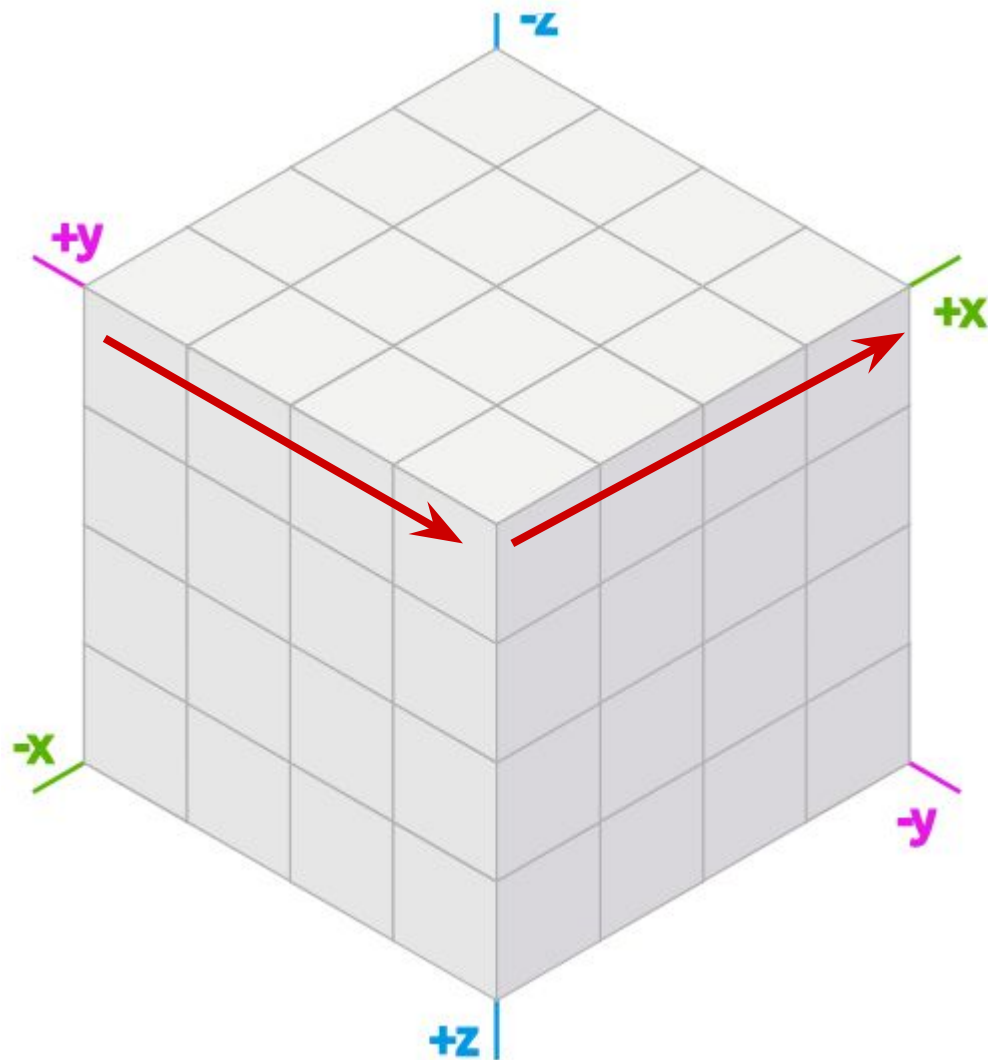
Cube Coordinate System (2/2)



Cube/axial

- Hexagonal grids are represented by three primary axes (**q**, **r**, **s**) unlike square grids given by (**x**, **y**).
- (**q**, **r**, **s**) are three hexagonal directions 120° apart.
- The property/constraint **eliminates redundancy** and **ensures consistency**.

$$q + r + s = 0$$

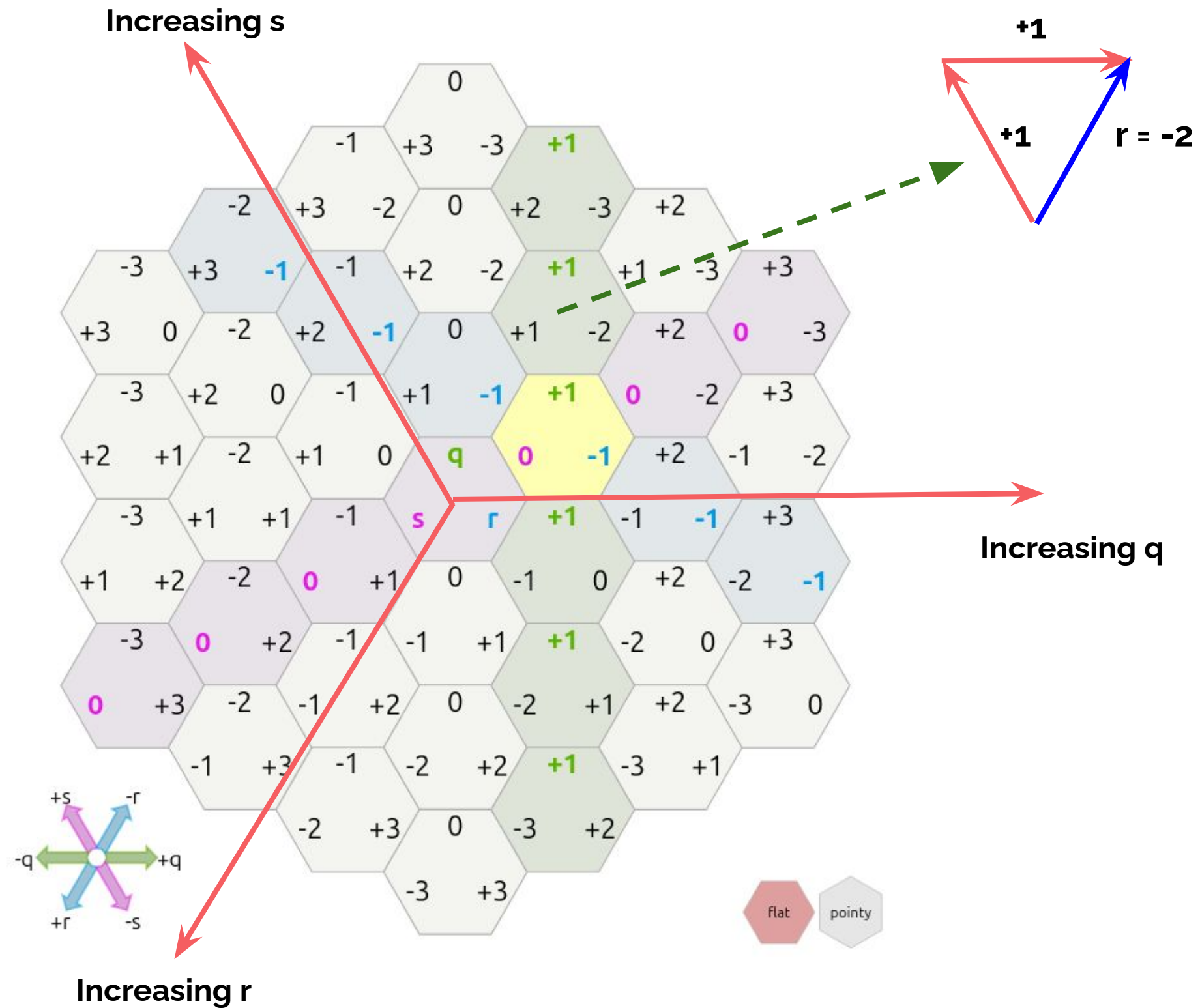


q, r, s represented by x, y, z

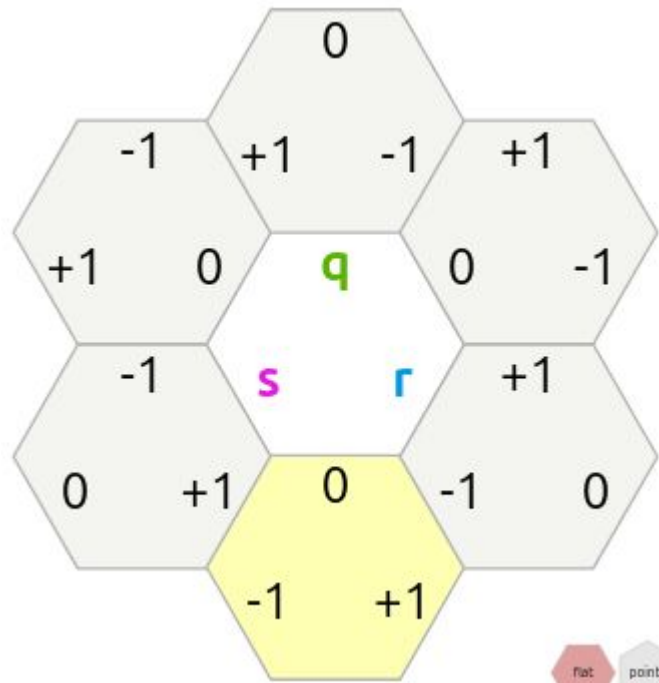
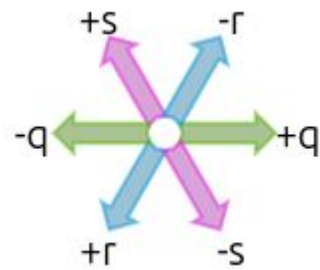
- In 3D, moving along the red arrows takes you from **+y** to **+x**.
- The z-coordinate will be 0 and is independent .
- When you squeeze 3D into 2D, one dimension is lost. The three axes (**q,r,s**) are not independent.



$$q + r + s = 0$$



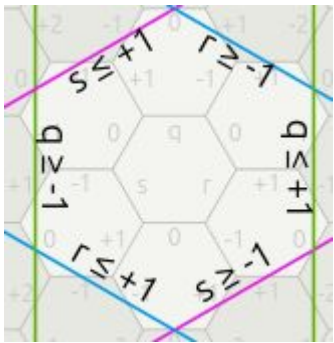
Cube Coordinate System: Neighbours



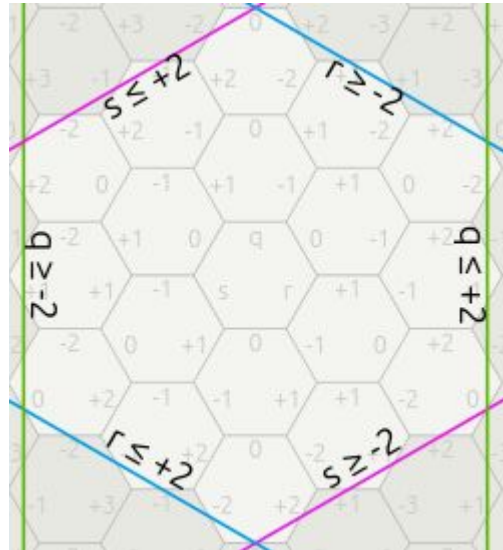
Neighbours in Cube

- Finding the **neighbours** of a hexagon is **easy with cube coordinates**.
 - Helpful in board games to find paths connecting hexagons.
- Neighbours:
 - $(1, 0, -1)$
 - $(1, -1, 0)$
 - $(0, -1, 1)$
 - $(-1, 0, 1)$
 - $(-1, 1, 0)$
 - $(0, 1, -1)$

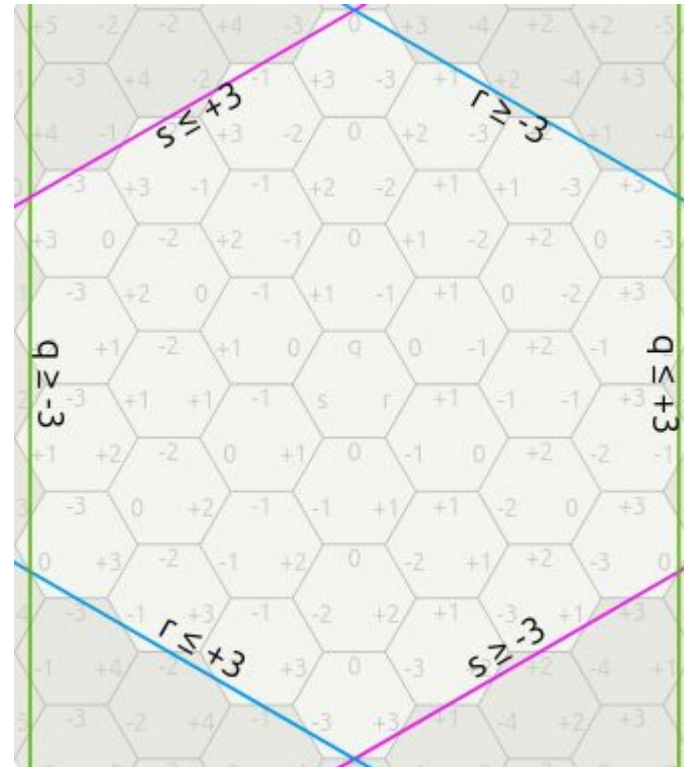
Hexagonal Grid Generation



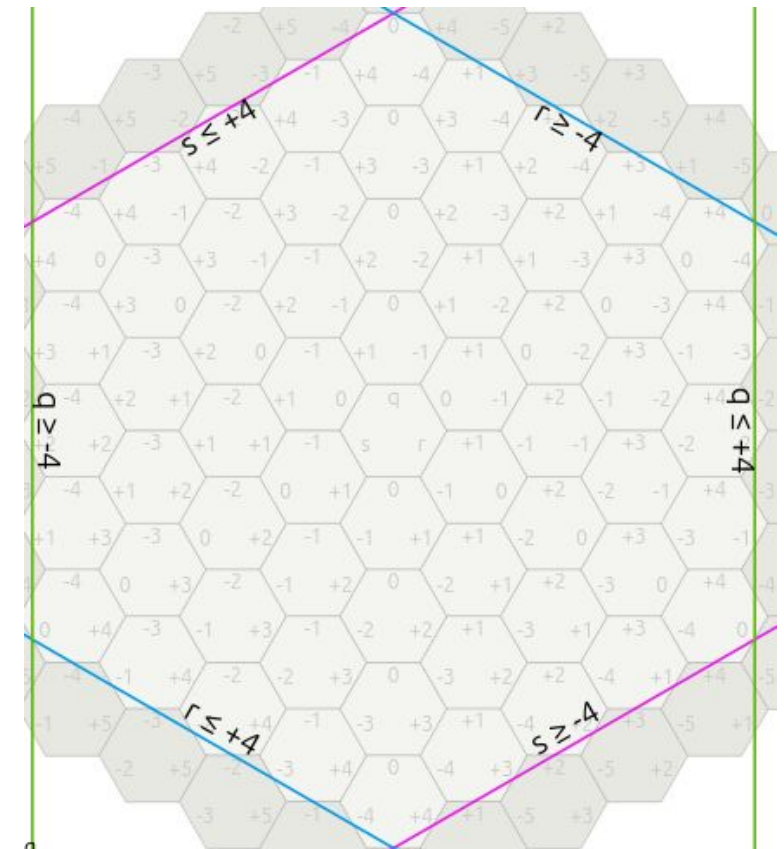
N = 2



N = 3



N = 4



N = 5

- One can generating **base-N** (distance **N-1** from the center) hexagonal grids using a simple loop.
- Java code presented in later slides.



Hexagonal Grids: A Java Implementation



Hexagonal Grid Code

The screenshot shows a web browser window with multiple tabs. The active tab is 'COMP20050 Hexagonal C X'. The address bar shows the URL: <https://brightspace.ucd.ie/d2l/le/content/297464/viewContent/3519958/View>. The page header includes the UCD logo and the text 'COMP20050-Software Engineering Project 2-202...'. Below the header is a navigation bar with links: 'My Learning', 'Assessment', 'Discussions', 'My Class', 'Library', 'Student Feedback', and 'Module Tools'. The main content area displays 'COMP20050 Hexagonal Grids Code'. A file download box shows 'COMP20050_Week4_HexagonalGrids.zip' (9.21 KB, Last Modified 26 January 2025 9:19 PM) with a 'Download' button. Below this are buttons for 'Reflect in ePortfolio' and 'Download'. The 'Activity Details' tab is selected, showing a 'Visible' toggle, 'Required: Automatic', and a note 'View this topic to complete the activity'. It also includes a section for 'Add dates and restrictions...' and 'Options' where 'Reflecting in ePortfolio is enabled'.

- The code presented in this lecture is on Brightspace above.



Flat Top Hexagonal Grid: Java Implementation

```
class Point
{
    public Point(double x, double y)
    {
        this.x = x;
        this.y = y;
    }
    public final double x;
    public final double y;
}
```

- A simple java class called **Point** for storing screen coordinates of a point in a 2D X-Y Cartesian coordinate system.



Hexagon: Java Implementation

```
class HexCube
{
    public HexCube(int q, int r, int s)
    {
        this.q = q;
        this.r = r;
        this.s = s;
        if (q + r + s != 0)
            throw new IllegalArgumentException(
                "q + r + s must be 0");
    }

    public final int q;
    public final int r;
    public final int s;
    ...
}
```

- **Cube coordinate system** is used to represent a Hexagon.
- Note the property in the constructor:

$$\mathbf{q + r + s = 0}$$



Hexagon Coordinate Arithmetic

```
public HexCube add(HexCube b)
{
    return new HexCube(q + b.q, r + b.r, s + b.s);
}
```

```
public HexCube subtract(HexCube b)
{
    return new HexCube(q - b.q, r - b.r, s - b.s);
}
```

...

- Coordinate arithmetic is straightforward since Cube coordinates follow from 3D coordinates.



Distance Between Two Hexagons

```
public int length()
{
    return (int)((Math.abs(q) + Math.abs(r) + Math.abs(s)) / 2);
}
```

```
public int distance(HexCube b)
{
    return subtract(b).length();
}
```

...

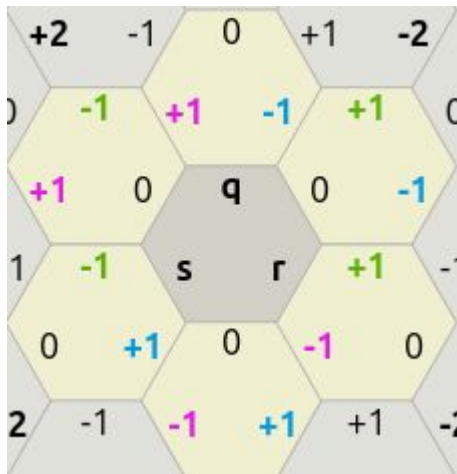
- **Manhattan distance** measures the sum of the absolute differences between the coordinates of the points.
- The distance between two points $(\mathbf{q}_1, \mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{s}_1)$ and $(\mathbf{q}_2, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{s}_2)$ on a hexagonal grid is half of the Manhattan distance.

$$\text{Distance} = \frac{|q_1 - q_2| + |r_1 - r_2| + |s_1 - s_2|}{2}$$

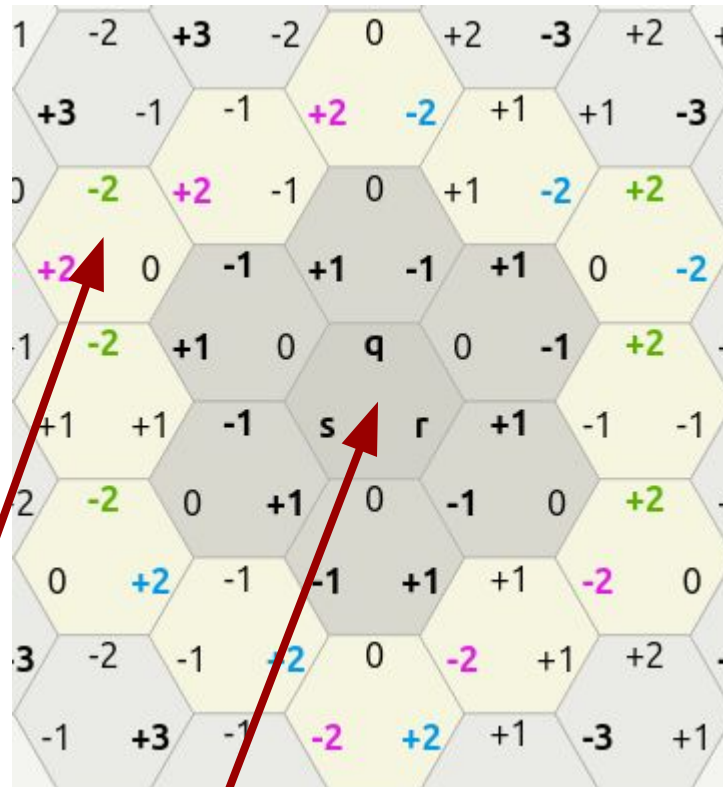


Distance Between Two Hexagons

d = 1



d = 2



d = 3



A = (-2, 2, 0) O = (0, 0, 0)

$$d_{AO} = (|-2| + |2| + |0|) / 2$$

$$= 2$$



Flat Top Orientation

```
class Orientation
{
    public Orientation(double f0, double f1, double f2, double f3,
        double b0, double b1, double b2, double b3,
        double start_angle)
    {
        ...
    }
}
```

- Used for the **flat top** layout.



Flat Top Layout

```
class Layout {  
    public Layout(Orientation orientation, Point size, Point origin) {  
        this.orientation = orientation;  
        this.size = size;  
        this.origin = origin;  
    }  
    public final Orientation orientation;  
    public final Point size;  
    public final Point origin;  
    static public Orientation flat = new Orientation(3.0 / 2.0, 0.0, Math.sqrt(3.0) / 2.0,  
        Math.sqrt(3.0), 2.0 / 3.0, 0.0, -1.0 / 3.0, Math.sqrt(3.0) / 3.0, 0.0);  
    ...  
}
```

- Layout is **Orientation** and two points represented by **size** and **origin**.



Hex to Pixel Conversion

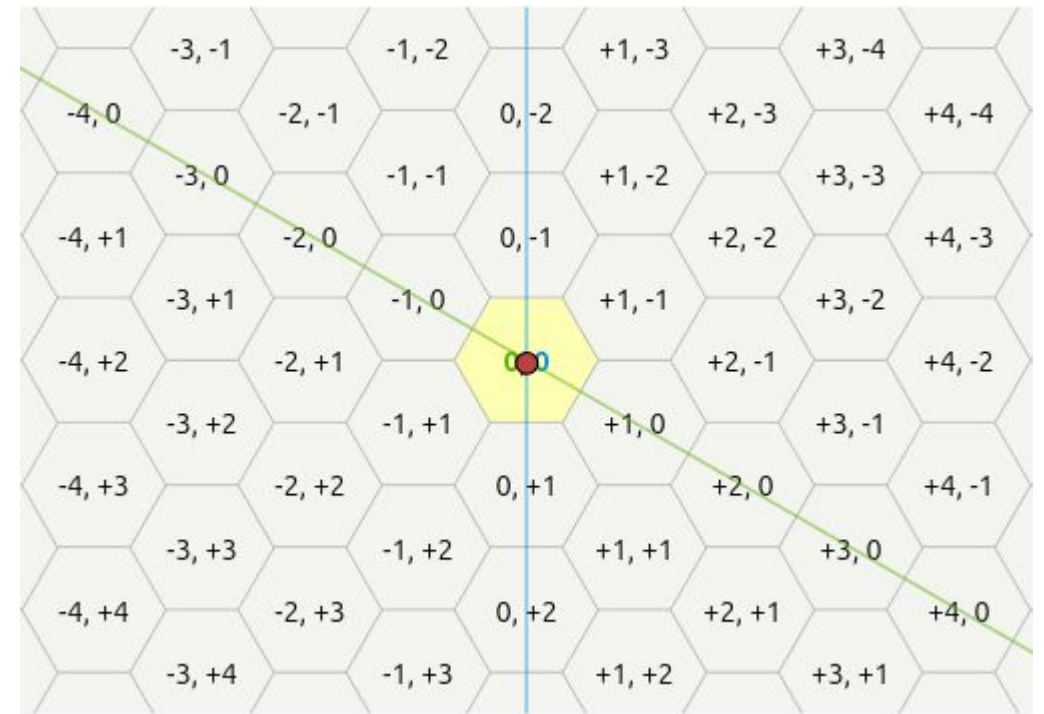
```
public Point hexToPixel(HexCube h)
{
    Orientation M = orientation;
    double x = (M.f0 * h.q + M.f1 * h.r) * size.x;
    double y = (M.f2 * h.q + M.f3 * h.r) * size.y;
    return new Point(x + origin.x, y + origin.y);
}
```

- Converts HexCube center to a pixel location on the screen.



Pixel to Hex Conversion

```
public FractionalHexCube pixelToHex(Point p)
{
    Orientation M = orientation;
    Point pt = new Point((p.x - origin.x) / size.x,
                        (p.y - origin.y) / size.y);
    double q = M.b0 * pt.x + M.b1 * pt.y;
    double r = M.b2 * pt.x + M.b3 * pt.y;
    return new FractionalHexCube(q, r, -q - r);
}
```



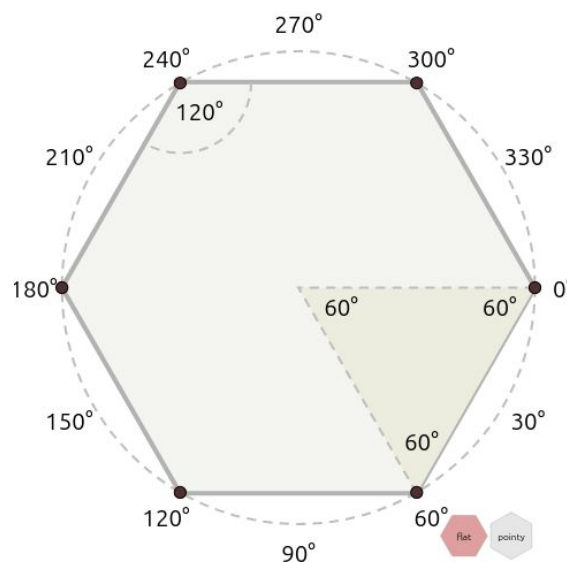
- **Allows converting a mouse click (pixel location) into a HexCube.**
- A mouse click gives you a **double** that must be converted to a HexCube center, which is an **integer**.
- **FractionalHexCube.hexRound()** will do the rounding.



Drawing a Hexagon

```
public ArrayList<Point> polygonCorners(HexCube h)
{
    ArrayList<Point> corners = new ArrayList<Point>({});
    Point center = hexToPixel(h);
    for (int i = 0; i < 6; i++) {
        Point offset = hexCornerOffset(i);
        corners.add(new Point(center.x + offset.x, center.y + offset.y));
    }
    return corners;
}
```

- The loop calculates the 6 corner points for each hexagon relative to the center.
- With the flat top orientation, the corners are **0°**, **60°**, **120°**, **180°**, **240°**, **300°**.



Generating a Hexagonal Grid

```
int baseN = 6; /* 6 here is the distance of neighbouring hexagons from the center */
ArrayList<ArrayList<Point>> grid = new ArrayList<>();
for (int q = -baseN; q <= baseN; q++) {
    for (int r = -baseN; r <= baseN; r++) {
        for (int s = -baseN; s <= baseN; s++) {
            if ((q + r + s) == 0) {
                HexCube h = new HexCube(q, r, s);
                ArrayList<Point> corners = flat.polygonCorners(h);
                grid.add(corners);
            }
        }
    }
}
```

- This loop creates a base-7 grid of hexagons. The grid is represented as a list of list of points (**ArrayList<ArrayList<Point>>**).
- Each hexagon is a ArrayList of six corner points, **ArrayList<Point>**.



Using Java AWT Graphics (Drawing Points)

@Override

```
protected void paintComponent(Graphics g) {  
    super.paintComponent(g);  
    g.setColor(Color.BLUE);  
    for (ArrayList<Point> hexagon : grid) {  
        for (Point p : hexagon) {  
            int x = (int) Math.round(p.x);  
            int y = (int) Math.round(p.y);  
            g.fillOval(x - 5, y - 5, 10, 10);  
        }  
    }  
}
```

...

- **fillOval()** method blows up the points for better visibility.



Drawing Lines Between Points

```
for (ArrayList<Point> hexagon : grid) {  
    int p1xi, p1yi, p2xi, p2yi;  
    Point p1 = hexagon.get(0), p2;  
    for (int i = 1; i < hexagon.size(); i++)  
    {  
        p2 = hexagon.get(i);  
        p1xi = (int) Math.round(p1.x);  
        p1yi = (int) Math.round(p1.y);  
        p2xi = (int) Math.round(p2.x);  
        p2yi = (int) Math.round(p2.y);  
        g.drawLine(p1xi, p1yi, p2xi, p2yi);  
        p1 = p2;  
    }  
  
    p2 = hexagon.get(0);  
    p1xi = (int) Math.round(p1.x);  
    p1yi = (int) Math.round(p1.y);  
    p2xi = (int) Math.round(p2.x);  
    p2yi = (int) Math.round(p2.y);  
    g.drawLine(p1xi, p1yi, p2xi, p2yi);  
}
```

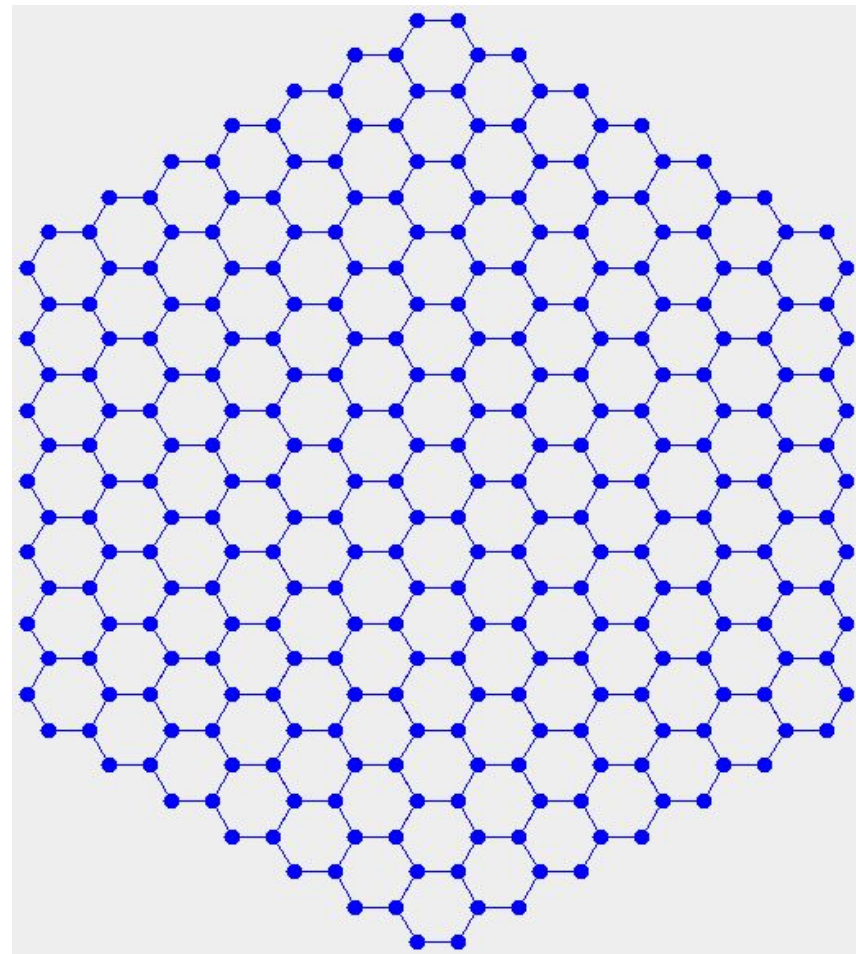
- **drawLine()** method draws a line between two points.



Running HexGrid Implementation

- The program accepts **size** (in pixels)and hexagonal grid center (**x,y**) from top left corner as inputs.

\$ java HexGrid 25 400 400



Q&A



To follow...

Agile Software Development Scrum Software Engineering Framework

