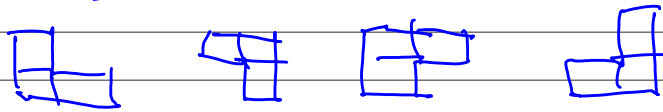
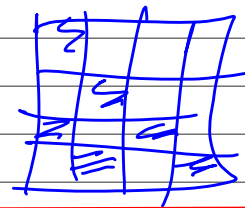


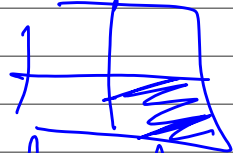
Can you perfectly tile a  $4 \times 4$  chessboard with triominoes?



NO. Since  $3 \nmid 16$ .

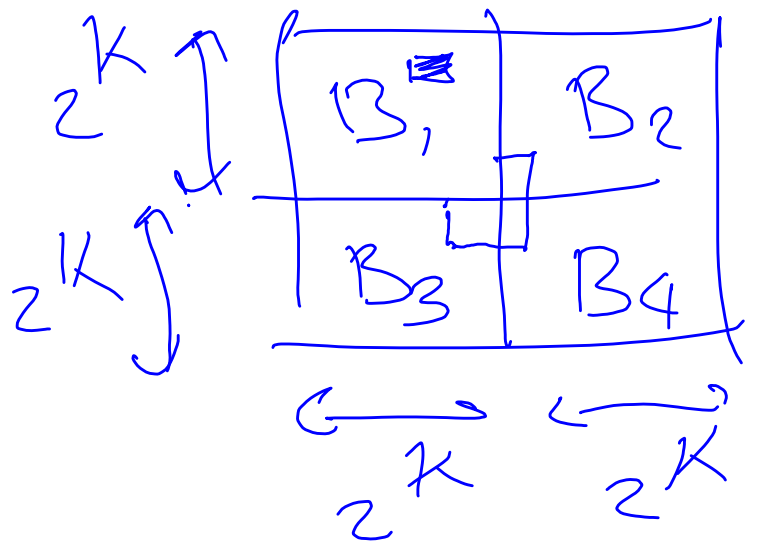


For any  $n \geq 1$ , every  $2^n \times 2^n$  chessboard with one square removed can be perfectly tiled w/ triominoes?

- Base case:  $n=1$    
WLOG, assume that bottom right corner is removed. It is trivial that you can tile this board.

- Inductive step. Assume arbitrary  $k \geq 1$ .  
Assume  $2^k \times 2^k$  board w/ one square removed can be tiled.

observe that the  $2^{k+1} \times 2^{k+1}$  can be divided into 4  $2^k \times 2^k$  board.



WLOG, assume that the removed square is in the top left quadrant (since we can rotate the board). Name the quadrant as  $B_1, B_2, B_3$ , and  $B_4$  as suggested by the figure above.

By the inductive step assumption,  $B_1$  can be perfectly tiled w/ triominoes. To cover the other quadrants, we first place a triomino in the center such that it covers one square from  $B_2, B_3$ , and  $B_4$ . Observe that due to the induction assumption, all other squares of  $B_2, B_3$ , and  $B_4$  can be perfectly covered by triominoes. Hence, we can perfectly tile a  $2^{k+1} \times 2^{k+1}$  board with an arbitrary square removed, as desired  $\square$