Convex lattice polygons with all lattice points visible

by

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Abstract

Two lattice points are visible to one another if there exist no other lattice points on the line segment connecting them. In this paper we study convex lattice polygons that contain a lattice point such that all other lattice points in the polygon are visible from it. We completely classify such polygons, showing that there are finitely many of lattice width greater than 2 and computationally enumerating them. As an application of this classification, we prove new obstructions to graphs arising as skeleta of tropical plane curves.

1 Introduction

A lattice point in \( \mathbb{R}^2 \) is any point with integer coordinates, and a lattice polygon is any polygon whose vertices are lattice points. We say that two distinct lattice points \( p = (a, b) \) and \( q = (c, d) \) are visible to one another if the line segment \( pq \) contains no lattice points besides \( p \) and \( q \), or equivalently if \( \gcd(a-c, b-d) = 1 \); by convention we say that any \( p \) is visible from itself. Points visible from the origin \( O = (0, 0) \) are called visible points, with all other points being called invisible. The study of which structures can be appear among visible points, invisible points, or some prescribed combination thereof was studied in [13], where it was proved that one can find a copy of any convex lattice polygon (indeed, any arrangement of finitely many lattice points) consisting entirely of invisible points.

In this paper we pose and answer a somewhat complementary question: which convex lattice polygons including the origin contain only visible lattice points? We define a panoptigon\(^1\) to be a convex lattice polygon \( P \) containing a lattice point \( p \) such that all other lattice points in \( P \) are visible from \( p \). We call such a \( p \) a panoptigon point for \( P \). Thus up to translation, a panoptigon is a convex lattice polygon containing the origin such that every point in \( P \cap \mathbb{Z}^2 \) is a visible point. Three panoptigons are pictured in Figure 1, each with a panoptigon point and its lines of sight highlighted; note that the panoptigon point need not be unique.

![Figure 1: Three panoptigons, with a panoptigon point circled and lines of sight illustrated; the middle polygon has a second panoptigon point, namely the bottom vertex](image)

It turns out that there are infinity many panoptigons even up to equivalence, where two polygons are said to be equivalent if they differ by a unimodular transformation. A unimodular transformation is an integer linear map \( t : \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2 \) that preserves the integer lattice \( \mathbb{Z}^2 \); any such map is of the form \( t(p) = Ap + b \).

\(^{1}\)This name is modelled off of 'panopticon', an architectural design that allows for one position to observe all others. It comes from the Greek word 'panoptes', meaning "all seeing".
where $A$ is a $2 \times 2$ integer matrix with determinant $\pm 1$ and $b$ is a translation vector. To see that there are infinitely many panoptigons, note that the triangle with vertices at $(0, 0)$, $(0, -1)$, and $(b, -1)$ is a panoptigon for every positive integer $b$, and any two such triangles are pairwise inequivalent. We can obtain nicer results if we stratify polygons according to lattice width, which measures how narrow of a strip a polygon can be placed in by a unimodular transformation. Although there are infinitely many panoptigons of lattice widths 1 and 2, we can still classify them completely, as presented in Lemmas 3.1 and 3.2. Once we reach lattice width 3 or more, we obtain the following powerful result.

**Theorem 1.1.** Let $P$ be a panoptigon with lattice width $\text{lw}(P) \geq 3$. Then $|P \cap \mathbb{Z}^2| \leq 13$.

Since there are only finitely many lattice polygons with a fixed number of lattice points up to equivalence [16, Theorem 2], it follows that there are only finitely many panoptigons $P$ with $\text{lw}(P) \geq 3$. In Appendix A we detail computations to enumerate all such lattice polygons. This allows us to determine that there exactly 73 panoptigons of lattice width 3 or more. One is the triangle of degree 3, which has a single interior lattice point; and the other 72 are nonhyperelliptic, meaning that the convex hull of their interior lattice points is two-dimensional.

As an application of our classification of panoptigons, we prove new results about tropically planar graphs [8]. These are 3-regular, connected, planar graphs that arise as skeletonized versions of dual graphs of regular, unimodular triangulations of lattice polygons. We often stratify tropically planar graphs by their first Betti number, also called their genus. If $G$ is a tropically planar graph arising from a triangulation of a lattice polygon $P$, then the genus of $G$ is equal to the number of interior lattice points of $P$.

We prove a new criterion for ruling out certain graphs from being tropically planar, notable in that the graphs it applies to are 2-edge-connected, unlike those ruled out by most existing criteria; this solves an open question posed in [8, §5]. We say that a planar graph $G$ is a big face graph if for every planar embedding of $G$, there is a bounded face sharing an edge with all other bounded faces.

**Theorem 1.2.** If $G$ is a big face graph of genus $g \geq 14$, then $G$ is not tropically planar.

The idea behind the proof of this theorem is as follows. If a big face graph $G$ is tropically planar, then it is dual to a regular unimodular triangulation of a lattice polygon $P$. One of the interior lattice points $p$ of $P$ must be connected to all the other interior lattice points, so that the bounded face dual to $p$ can share an edge with all other bounded faces. Thus, the convex hull of the interior lattice points of $P$ must be a panoptigon. If that panoptigon has lattice width 3 or more, then it can have at most 13 lattice points, and so $G$ cannot have $g \geq 14$.

For the case that the lattice width of the interior panoptigon is smaller, we need an understanding of which polygons of lattice width 1 or 2 can appear as the interior lattice points of another lattice polygon. We obtain this in Propositions 4.1 and 4.5, and can once again bound the genus of $G$. In fact, if we are willing to rely on our computational enumeration of all panoptigons with lattice width at least 3, then we can improve this result to say that big face graphs of genus $g \geq 12$ are not tropically planar. We will see that this bound is sharp.

Our paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 we present background on lattice polygons, including a description of all polygons of lattice width at most 2. In Section 3 we classify all panoptigons. In Section 4 we classify all maximal polygons of lattice width 3 or 4. Finally, in Section 5 we prove Theorem 1.2. Our computational results are then summarized in Appendix A.

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## 2 Lattice polygons

In this section we recall important terminology and results regarding lattice polygons. This includes the notion of maximal polygons, and of lattice width. Throughout we will assume that $P$ is a two-dimensional convex lattice polygon, unless otherwise stated.
The genus of a polygon \( P \) is the number of lattice points interior to \( P \). A key fact is that for fixed \( g \geq 1 \), there are only finitely many lattice polygons of genus \( g \), up to equivalence [6, Theorem 9]. We refer to the convex hull of the \( g \) interior points of \( P \) as the interior polygon of \( P \), denoted \( P_{\text{int}} \). If \( \dim(P_{\text{int}}) = 2 \), we call \( P \) nonhyperelliptic; if \( \dim(P_{\text{int}}) \leq 1 \), we call \( P \) hyperelliptic. We say a polygon \( P \) is a maximal polygon if it is maximal with respect to containment among all polygons containing the same set of interior lattice points.

In the case that \( P \) is nonhyperelliptic, there is a strong relationship between \( P \) and \( P_{\text{int}} \). Let \( \tau_1, \ldots, \tau_n \) be the one-dimensional faces of a (two-dimensional) lattice polygon \( Q \). Then \( Q \) can be defined as an intersection of half-planes:

\[
Q = \bigcap_{i=1}^{n} H_{\tau_i},
\]

where \( H_{\tau} = \{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid a_{\tau} x + b_{\tau} y \leq c_{\tau} \} \) is the set of all points on the same side of the line containing \( \tau \) as \( Q \). Without loss of generality, we assume that \( a_{\tau}, b_{\tau}, c_{\tau} \in \mathbb{Z} \) with \( \gcd(a_{\tau}, b_{\tau}) = 1 \). With this convention, we define

\[
H_{\tau}^{(-1)} = \{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid a_{\tau} x + b_{\tau} y \leq c_{\tau} + 1 \},
\]

and from there define the relaxed polygon of \( Q \) as

\[
Q^{(-1)} := \bigcap_{i=1}^{n} H_{\tau_i}^{(-1)}. \]

We can think of \( Q^{(-1)} \) as the polygon we would get by “moving out” the edges of \( Q \). It is worth remarking that that \( Q^{(-1)} \) need not be a lattice polygon. We denote \( Q^{(-1)} \cap H_{\tau_i}^{(-1)} \) as \( \tau_i^{(-1)} \). It is not necessarily the case that \( \tau_i^{(-1)} \) is a one-dimensional face of \( Q^{(-1)} \); however, if \( Q^{(-1)} \) is a lattice polygon, then \( Q^{(-1)} \cap \tau_i^{(-1)} \) must contain at least one lattice point, as proved in [9, Lemma 2.2]. Examples where \( Q^{(-1)} \) is not a lattice polygon, and where \( Q^{(-1)} \) is a lattice polygon but an edge has collapsed, are illustrated in Figure 2. There is a very important case when we are guaranteed to have that \( Q^{(-1)} \) is a lattice polygon, namely when \( Q = P_{\text{int}} \) for some lattice polygon \( P \).

![Figure 2: Two lattice polygons, one with a relaxed polygon with a non-lattice vertex marked; and one with a collapsed edge in the relaxed (lattice) polygon](image)

**Proposition 2.1** ([15], §2.2). Let \( P \) be a nonhyperelliptic lattice polygon, with interior polygon \( P_{\text{int}} \). Then \( P_{\text{int}}^{(-1)} \) is a lattice polygon containing \( P \). In particular, \( P_{\text{int}}^{(-1)} \) is the unique maximal polygon with interior polygon \( P_{\text{int}} \).

If we are given a polygon \( Q \) and we wish to know if there exists a lattice polygon \( P \) with \( P_{\text{int}} = Q \), it therefore suffices to compute the relaxed polygon \( Q^{(-1)} \), and to check whether its vertices have integral coordinates. This might fail because two adjacent edges \( \tau_i \) and \( \tau_{i+1} \) of \( Q \) are relaxed to intersect at a non-integral vertex of \( Q^{(-1)} \); we also might have that some \( \tau_i^{(-1)} \) is completely lost, which cannot happen when \( Q^{(-1)} \) is a lattice polygon by [9, Lemma 2.2]. Careful consideration of these obstructions will be helpful in classifying the maximal polygons of lattice widths 3 and 4 in Section 4.

An important tool in studying lattice polygons is the notion of lattice width. Let \( P \) be a non-empty lattice polygon, and let \( v = (a, b) \) be a lattice direction with \( \gcd(a, b) = 1 \). The width of \( P \) with respect to \( v \) is the smallest integer \( d \) for which there exists \( m \in \mathbb{Z} \) such that the strip

\[
m \leq ay - bx \leq m + d
\]

contains \( P \). We denote this \( d \) as \( w(P, v) \). The lattice width of \( P \) is the minimal width over all possible choices of \( v \):

\[
\text{lw}(P) = \min_{v} w(P, v).
\]
Any \( v \) which achieves this minimum is called a \textit{lattice width direction} for \( P \). Equivalently, \( \text{lw}(P) \) is the smallest \( d \) such that there exists a lattice polygon \( P' \) equivalent to \( P \) with \( P' \subset \mathbb{R} \times [0,d] \).

We recall the following result connecting the lattice widths of a polygon and its interior polygon. Let \( T_d = \text{conv}((0,0),(d,0),(0,d)) \) denote the standard triangle of degree \( d \).

**Lemma 2.2** (Theorem 4 in [7]). For a lattice polygon \( P \) we have \( \text{lw}(P) = \text{lw}(P_{\text{int}}) + 2 \), unless \( P \) is equivalent to \( T_d \) for some \( d \geq 2 \), in which case \( \text{lw}(P) = \text{lw}(P_{\text{int}}) + 3 = d \).

The following result tells us precisely which polygons have lattice width 1 or 2.

**Theorem 2.3.** Let \( P \) be a two-dimensional lattice polygon. If \( \text{lw}(P) = 1 \), then \( P \) is equivalent to

\[ T_{a,b} := \text{conv}((0,0),(0,1),(a,1),(b,0)) \]

for some \( a,b \in \mathbb{Z} \) with \( 0 \leq a \leq b \) and \( b \geq 1 \).

If \( \text{lw}(P) = 2 \), then up to equivalence either \( P = T_2 \); or \( g(P) = 1 \) and \( P \neq T_3 \) (all such polygons are illustrated in Figure 3); or \( g(P) \geq 2 \). In the latter case we have \( \frac{1}{6}(g+3)(2g^2 + 15g + 16) \) polygons, sorted into three types:

- **Type 1:**

\[
\begin{align*}
& (0,0) \quad (1,2) \quad (1+2g-i,2) \\
& (i,0) 
\end{align*}
\]

where \( g \leq i \leq 2g \).

- **Type 2:**

\[
\begin{align*}
& (0,0) \quad (1,2) \quad (1+j,2) \\
& (i,0) \quad (g+1,1)
\end{align*}
\]

where \( 0 \leq i \leq g \) and \( 0 \leq j \leq i \); or \( g < i \leq 2g + 1 \) and \( 0 \leq j \leq 2g - i + 1 \)

- **Type 3:**

\[
\begin{align*}
& (0,0) \quad (0,1) \quad (k,2) \quad (k+j,2) \\
& (i,0) \quad (g+1,1)
\end{align*}
\]

where \( 0 \leq k \leq g+1 \) and \( 0 \leq i \leq g+1-k \) and \( 0 \leq j \leq i \); or \( 0 \leq k \leq g+1 \) and \( g+1-k < i \leq 2g+2-2k \) and \( 0 \leq j \leq 2g - i - 2k + 1 \)

**Proof.** A similar classification is proved in [15] and presented in [6, Theorem 10], except with polygons sorted by genus \( (g = 0, g = 1, \text{and } g \geq 2 \text{ with all interior lattice points collinear}) \) rather than by lattice width. We can translate their work into the desired result as follows.

For \( \text{lw}(P) = 1 \), we know \( P \) has no interior lattice points, so \( g = 0 \); all polygons of genus 0 besides \( T_2 \) have lattice width 1. By [15] all genus 0 polygons besides \( T_2 \) are equivalent to \( T_{a,b} \) for some \( a,b \in \mathbb{Z} \) with \( 0 \leq a \leq b \) and \( b \geq 1 \).

For \( \text{lw}(P) = 2 \), we deal with the three cases of \( g = 0, g = 1, \text{and } g \geq 2 \). If \( g = 0 \), then the only polygon of lattice width 2 is \( T_2 \). If \( P \) is a polygon with genus \( g = 1 \), then by Lemma 2.2 we know that
The two edges incident to it. Since we have assumed that \( g \) This will yield a graph with all vertices of degree 2 or 3. Remove each degree 2 vertex by concatenating \( \Delta \) into a 3-regular graph as follows: first, iteratively delete any 1-valent vertices and their attached edges.

\[ \ell(P) = \max(|\{L ∩ P ∩ \mathbb{Z}^2| − 1 | L is a line\} \]

We define a **lattice diameter direction** \( ⟨a,b⟩ \) to be one such that there exists a line \( L \) with slope vector \( ⟨a,b⟩ \) with \( |L ∩ P ∩ \mathbb{Z}^2| − 1 = \ell(P) \). We remark that there exist other works where lattice diameter is defined as the largest number of collinear lattice points in the polygon \( P \) [1]; this is simply one more than the convention we set above. The following result relates \( \ell(P) \) to \( \text{lw}(P) \).

**Theorem 2.4** ([3], Theorem 3). We have \( \text{lw}(P) ≤ \left\lfloor \frac{1}{3} \ell(P) \right\rfloor + 1 \).

Given a regular unimodular triangulation \( \Delta \) of a lattice polygon \( P \), we can consider the **weak dual graph** of \( \Delta \), which consists of 1 vertex for each elementary triangle, with two vertices connected if and only if the corresponding triangles share an edge. Each vertex in this graph has degree 1, 2, or 3, depending on how many edges the corresponding triangle has on the boundary of \( P \). We transform the weak dual graph of \( \Delta \) into a 3-regular graph as follows: first, iteratively delete any 1-valent vertices and their attached edges. This will yield a graph with all vertices of degree 2 or 3. Remove each degree 2 vertex by concatenating the two edges incident to it. Since we have assumed that \( g(P) ≥ 2 \), the end result is a 3-regular graph \( G \) with loops and parallel edges allowed. We call \( G \) the **skeleton** associated to \( \Delta \). Any \( G \) that arises from such a procedure is called a **tropically planar graph**. An example of a regular unimodular triangulation, the weak dual graph, and the tropically planar skeleton are pictured in Figure 4. Note that there is a one-to-one correspondence between the interior lattice points of \( P \) and the bounded faces of \( G \) in this embedding, where two faces of \( G \) share an edge if and only if the corresponding interior lattice points are connected by an edge in \( \Delta \).

It is worth remarking that we could still construct a graph \( G \) from a non-regular triangulation. The reason that we insist that \( \Delta \) is regular is so that the graph \( G \) appears as a subset of a smooth tropical plane curve, which is a balanced 1-dimensional polyhedral complex that is dual to a regular unimodular triangulation of a lattice polygon; see [17]. (Indeed, the regularity is necessary if we wish to endow a skeleton with the structure of a **metric graph**, with lengths assigned to its edges, as explored in [4] and [9].) Most of the results
Figure 4: A regular unimodular triangulation of a polygon, the weak dual graph of the triangulation, and the corresponding tropically planar skeleton

that we prove in this paper, and that we recall for the remainder of this section, also hold if we expand to graphs that arise as dual skeleta of any unimodular triangulation of a lattice polygon.

The first Betti number of a tropically planar graph, also known as its genus\(^2\), is equal to the number of interior lattice points of the lattice polygon \(P\) giving rise to it. It is also equal to the number of bounded faces in any planar embedding of the graph. A systematic method of computing all tropically planar graphs of genus \(g\) was designed and implemented in [4] for \(g \leq 5\). The algorithm is brute-force, and works by considering all maximal lattice polygons of genus \(g\), finding all regular unimodular triangulations of them, and computing the dual skeleta. These computations were pushed up to \(g = 7\) in [8]. In general there is no known method of checking whether an arbitrary graph is tropically planar short of this massive computation.

A fruitful direction in the study of tropically planar graphs has been finding properties or patterns that are forbidden in such graphs, so as to quickly rule out particular examples. Certainly any tropically planar graph is 3-regular, connected, and planar. Several additional constraints are summarized in the following result.

Theorem 2.5 ([5], Proposition 4.1; [8], Theorem 3.4; [14], Theorems 10 and 14). Suppose that \(G\) is a 3-regular graph of genus 6 of one of the forms illustrated in Figure 5, where each gray box represents a subgraph of genus at least 1. If \(G\) is tropically planar, then it must have either the third or fourth forms, with \(g = 4\) for the third form and \(g \leq 5\) in the fourth form. In particular, if \(g \geq 6\), then \(G\) is not tropically planar.

Figure 5: Forbidden patterns in tropically planar graphs of genus \(g \geq 6\)

The proofs of these results all use the following observation: any cut-edge in a tropically planar graph must arise from a split in the dual unimodular triangulation that divides the polygon into two polygons of positive genus. From there, one argues that collections of such splits cannot appear in lattice polygons in ways that would give rise to graphs of the pictured forms. For planar graphs that are 2-edge-connected and thus have no cut-edges, the only known general criterion to rule out tropical planarity is the notion of crowdedness [19]. However, crowded graphs are ones that cannot be dual to any triangulation of any point set in \(\mathbb{R}^2\), regardless of whether or not the point set comes from a convex lattice polygon; thus it is not especially interesting that crowded graphs are not tropically planar. In Section 5 we will find a family of

\(^2\)This terminology comes from [2] and is motivated by algebraic geometry; it is unrelated to the notion of graph genus defined in terms of embeddings on surfaces. The first Betti number of a graph is also sometimes called its \textit{cyclomatic number}. 

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2-edge-connected, 3-regular planar graphs that are not crowded but are still not tropically planar, the first known such examples.

3 A classification of all panoptigons

Let $P$ be a convex lattice polygon. Recall from the introduction that $P$ is a panoptigon if there is lattice point $p \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^2$ such that every other point in $P \cap \mathbb{Z}^2$ is visible from $p$. In this section we will classify all panoptigons, stratified by a combination of genus and lattice width. We begin with the panoptigons of genus 0.

**Lemma 3.1.** Let $P$ be a panoptigon of genus 0. Then $P$ is one of the following polygons, up to lattice equivalence:

$$
\begin{align*}
(0,2) & \quad (0,1) \quad (a,1) \\
(0,0) & \quad (2,0) \quad (b,0)
\end{align*}
$$

where $0 \leq a \leq \min\{2, b\}$.

**Proof.** By [15], any genus 0 polygon is equivalent either to the triangle $T_2$, or to the (possibly degenerate) trapezoid $T_{a,b}$ where $0 \leq a \leq b$ and $1 \leq b$. The triangle of degree 2 is a panoptigon, as any non-vertex lattice point can see every other lattice point. For $T_{a,b}$, we note that if $a \geq 3$ then the polygon is not a panoptigon: each lattice point $p$ is on a row with at least 3 other lattice points, not all of which can be visible from $p$ since the 4 (or more) points in that row are collinear. However, if $a \leq 2$, then a point $p$ can be chosen on the top row that can see the other $a$ points on the top row, as well as all points on the bottom row. Thus $T_{a,b}$ is a panoptigon if and only if $a \leq 2$. □

For polygons with exactly one interior lattice point, there is no obstruction to being a panoptigon.

**Lemma 3.2.** If $P$ is a polygon of genus 1, then $P$ is a panoptigon.

**Proof.** Let $p$ be the unique interior lattice point of $P$, and let $q$ be any other lattice point of $P$. Since $g(P) = 1$, the point $q$ must be on the boundary. By convexity, the line segment $pq$ must have its relative interior contained in the interior of the polygon, and so the line segment does not intersect $\partial P$ outside of $q$. Since $p$ is the only interior lattice point, we have that the only lattice points of $pq$ are its endpoints. It follows that $q$ is visible from $p$ for all $q \in P \cap \mathbb{Z}^2 - \{p\}$. We conclude that $P$ is a panoptigon with panoptigon point $p$. □

We now consider hyperelliptic polygons of genus $g \geq 2$. We will characterize precisely which of these are panoptigons based on the classification of them in Theorem 2.3 into Types 1, 2, and 3. In the following proof, we say a point $(a, b)$ is at height $b$, where every point is either at height 0, height 1, or height 2.

**Lemma 3.3.** Let $P$ be a hyperelliptic polygon of genus $g \geq 2$. Then $P$ is a panoptigon if and only if

- $P$ is of Type 1, with $g \leq 3$; or
- $P$ is of Type 2, either with $g \leq 2$, or with $j = 0$ and $0 \leq i \leq 1$; or
- $P$ is of Type 3, either with $j = 0$ and $i \leq 2$, with $k$ odd if $i = 0$ and $k$ even if $i = 2$; or with $i = 0$ and $j \leq 2$, and $k$ odd if $j = 0$ and $k$ even if $j = 2$.

**Proof.** We start by making the following observations. If $p = (a, b)$ is a panoptigon point for a hyperelliptic polygon $P$, then there must be at most 3 points at height $b$; and if there are exactly 3, then $p$ must be the middle such point. We also make several remarks in the case that $b \in \{0, 2\}$. There are no obstructions to a point at height $b$ seeing a point at height 1, so we will not concern ourselves with this. Choose $b' \in \{0, 2\}$ distinct from $b$, and suppose height $b'$ has 2 or more lattice points; then two of those points have the form $q = (a, b')$ and $q' = (a + 1, b')$. We claim that $p$ cannot view both $q$ and $q'$. Writing $p = (a, b)$, the midpoints
of the line segments $\overline{pq}$ and $\overline{pq'}$ have coordinates \( \left( \frac{a+q'}{2}, 1 \right) \) and \( \left( \frac{a+q'+1}{2}, 1 \right) \), respectively. Exactly one of \( \frac{a+q'}{2} \) and \( \frac{a+q'+1}{2} \) is an integer, meaning that either \( q \) or \( q' \) is not visible from \( p \). So, if \( p = (a, b) \) is a panoptigon point at height \( b \in \{0, 2\} \), there must be exactly one lattice point \( q = (a', b') \) at height \( b' \in \{0, 2\} \) with \( b' \neq b \); moreover, we must have that \( a - a' \) is odd.

We are ready to determine the possibilities for a hyperelliptic panoptigon \( P \) of genus \( g \geq 2 \), sorted by type.

- Let \( P \) be a hyperelliptic polygon of Type 1. If \( g \leq 3 \), then we may choose \( p = (a, 1) \) that can see every other point at height 1, as well as all points at heights 0 and 2; in this case \( P \) is a panoptigon. If \( g \geq 4 \), then there are at least 4 points at height 1. Moreover, the number of points at height 0 is \( i + 1 \) where \( g \leq i \leq 2g \), and we have \( i + 1 \geq 5 \) since \( g \geq 4 \). Thus it is impossible to have at most 3 points at one height and 1 at another. This means that for \( g \geq 4 \), \( P \) cannot be a panoptigon.

- Let \( P \) be a hyperelliptic polygon of Type 2. If \( g = 2 \), then \( P \) has exactly three points at height 1, and we can choose the middle point as a panoptigon point. Now assume \( g \geq 3 \); we cannot choose a panoptigon point at height 1, since there are \( g + 1 \geq 4 \) points at that height. To avoid having 4 points on both the top and bottom rows we need \( 0 \leq i \leq g \) and \( 0 \leq j \leq i \); and one of \( i \) and \( j \) must be 0, so we need \( i = 0 \) or \( j = 0 \). From there we need at most 3 lattice points on the bottom row, so \( 0 \leq i \leq 2 \). If \( i = 2 \), then the only possible panoptigon point is \( (1, 0) \); but this point cannot see \((1, 2)\), a contradiction. Thus \( 0 \leq i \leq 1 \); note that in either case \((0, 0)\) can serve as a panoptigon point.

- Finally, let \( P \) be a hyperelliptic polygon of Type 3. We cannot have a panoptigon point at height 1, since there are at least \( g + 2 \geq 4 \) points at that height. If there is a panoptigon point at height 0, then we must have at most \( 3 \) points at height 0 and exactly one point at height 2; that is, we must have \( j = 0 \) and \( i \leq 2 \). Moreover, we need to verify that way may choose a panoptigon point at height 0 that can see the unique point at height 2; this can always be done if \( i = 1 \), but if \( j = 0 \) then we need \( k \) odd (the only possible panoptigon point is then \((0, 0)\)), and if \( j = 2 \) we need \( k \) even (the only possible panoptigon point is then \((1, 0)\)). A similar argument shows that we can choose a panoptigon point at height 2 if and only if \( i = 0 \) and \( j \leq 2 \), with \( k \) odd if \( j = 0 \) and \( k \) even if \( j = 2 \).

We have now classified all hyperelliptic panoptigons, and have found that there are infinitely many of lattice width 1 and infinitely many of lattice width 2. Our last step is to understand nonhyperelliptic panoptigons; with the exception of the triangle \( T_3 \), this is equivalent to panoptigons of lattice width 3 or more. We are now ready to prove that the total number of lattice points of such a panoptigon is at most 13.

**Proof of Theorem 1.1.** Let us consider the lattice diameter \( \ell(P) \) of \( P \). We know by [1, Theorem 1] that \( |P \cap \mathbb{Z}^2| \leq (\ell(P) + 1)^2 \), so if \( \ell(P) \leq 2 \) we have \( |P \cap \mathbb{Z}^2| \leq 9 \). Thus we may assume \( \ell(P) \geq 3 \).

Perform an \( \text{SL}_2(\mathbb{Z}) \) transformation so that \((1, 0)\) is a lattice diameter direction for \( P \), and translate the polygon so that the origin \( O = (0, 0) \) is a panoptigon point. Thus \( P \cap \mathbb{Z}^2 \) consists of \( O \) and a collection of visible points.

Since \( \ell(P) = 3 \) and \((1, 0)\) is a lattice diameter direction, we know that the polygon \( P \) must contain 4 lattice points of the form \((a, b)\), \((a + 1, b)\), \((a + 2, b)\), and \((a + 3, b)\). We claim that \( b \in \{-1, 1\} \). Certainly \( b \neq 0 \), since there are only three such points allowed in \( P \): \((0, 0)\) and \((\pm 1, 0)\). We also know that \( b \) cannot be even: any set \( \mathbb{Z} \times \{2k\} \) has every second point invisible from the origin.

Suppose for the sake of contradiction that the points \((a, b)\), \((a + 1, b)\), \((a + 2, b)\), and \((a + 3, b)\) are in \( P \) with \( b \) odd and \( b \geq 3 \) (a symmetric argument will hold for \( b \leq -3 \) ). Consider the triangle \( T = \text{conv}(O, (a, b), \ldots, (a + 3, b)) \). By convexity, \( T \subset P \). Consider the line segment \( T \cap L \), where \( L \) is the line defined by \( y = b - 1 \). The length of this line segment is \( 3 - \frac{1}{b} \), and since \( b \geq 3 \) this is strictly greater than 2. Any line segment of length 2 at height \( b - 1 \) will intersect at least two lattice points. But since \( b - 1 \) is even and \( b - 1 \geq 2 \), at least one of these lattice points is not visible from \( O \). Such a lattice point must be contained in \( T \), and therefore in \( P \), a contradiction. Thus we have that \( b = \pm 1 \).

Rotating our polygon \( 180^\circ \) degrees if necessary, we may assume that \( b = -1 \), so that the points \((a, -1), \ldots, (a + 3, -1)\) are contained in \( P \). It is possible that there the number \( k \) of lattice points on the
line defined by $y = -1$ is more than 4; up to relabelling, we may assume that $(a, -1), \ldots , (a + k - 1, -1)$ are lattice points in $P$ while $(a - 1, -1)$ and $(a + k, -1)$ are not, where $k \geq 4$. Applying a shearing transformation $\left( \begin{array}{c} 1 & a + 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{array} \right)$, we may further assume that the points at height $-1$ are precisely $(-1, -1), \ldots , (k - 2, -1)$.

We will now make a series of arguments that rule out many lattice points from being contained in $P$. The end result of these constraints is pictured in Figure 6, with points labelled by the argument that rules them out.

(i) The polygon $P$ has (regular) width at least 3 at height $-1$, and width strictly smaller than 2 at heights 2 and $-2$, since it cannot contain two consecutive lattice points at those heights. It follows from convexity that the width of the polygon is strictly smaller than 1 at height $-3$, and that the polygon cannot have any lattice points at all at height $-4$. It also follows that the polygon cannot have a nonnegative width at height 8. Thus every lattice point $(x, y)$ in the polygon satisfies $-3 \leq y \leq 7$.

(ii) We can further restrict the possible heights by showing that there can be no lattice points at height $-3$. Suppose there were such a point $(x, -3)$ in $P$. Consider the triangle $\text{conv}((x, -3), (-1, -1), (2, -1))$. This triangle has area 3, so by Pick’s Theorem [21] satisfies $3 = g + \frac{b}{2} - 1$, or $4 = g + \frac{b}{2}$, where $g$ and $b$ are the number of interior lattice points an boundary lattice points of the triangle, respectively. The 4 lattice points at height $-1$ contribute 2 to this sum, and the one lattice point at height $-3$ contributes $\frac{1}{2}$ to this sum, meaning that the lattice points at height $-2$ contribute $\frac{2}{3}$ to this sum. It follows that there must be at least two lattice points at height $-2$; but this is a contradiction, since at least one of these points will be invisible from $O$. We conclude that $P$ cannot contain a lattice point of the form $(x, -3)$, and thus $y \geq -2$ for all lattice points $(x, y) \in P$.

(iii) We know that the lattice point $(-2, 0)$ is not in $P$ since it is not visible from $O$. If there is any lattice point of the form $(x, y)$ with $y \geq 1$ and $x \leq y$, then the triangle $\text{conv}(O, (-1, -1), (x, y))$ will contain $(-2, 0)$. Thus no such lattice point $(x, y)$ can exist in $P$.

(iv) No point of the form $(x, y)$ with $x \geq 2$ and $y \geq 0$ may appear in $P$: this would force the point $(2, 0)$ to appear, as it would lie in the triangle $\text{conv}(O, (2, -1), (x, y))$.

(v) There are now only finitely many allowed lattice points $(x, y)$ with $y \geq 1$. By considering the triangle $\text{conv}((x, y), (-1, -1), (-1, 3))$ and determining whether it has any forbidden points for each such $(x, y)$, we may eliminate most of them, and are left with 13 possible points with $y \geq 1$.

(vi) By assumption, we know there are no lattice points of the form $(x, -1)$ where $x \leq -2$. It follows that there are also no lattice points of the form $(x, -2)$ where $x \leq -4$, since $(-1, -2)$ would lie in the convex hull of such a point with $O$ and $(2, -1)$.

(vii) We will now use the fact that we have assumed that $P$ satisfies $\text{lw}(P) \geq 3$. We cannot have that $P$ is contained in the strip $-2 \leq y \leq 0$, so there must be at least one point $(x, y)$ with $y \geq 1$. If there is a point of the form $(x', -1)$ with $x' \geq 6$, then we would have that $\text{conv}((x, y), (x', -1), (-1, -1))$ contains the point $(2, 0)$, which is invisible. Thus we can only have points $(x', -1)$ if $-1 \leq x \leq 5$. A similar argument shows that $P$ can only contain a point $(x, -2)$ if $x$ is odd with $-3 \leq x \leq 9$.

We have now narrowed the possible lattice points in our polygon down to the 30 lattice points in Figure 6, five of which we know appear in $P$. For every such point $(x, y)$, there does indeed exist a polygon $P$ with $\text{lw}(P) \geq 3$ containing $(x, y)$ as well as the five prescribed points such that $P \cap \mathbb{Z}^2$ is a subset of the 30 allowed points, so we cannot narrow down any further.

One way to finish the proof is by use of a computer to determine all possible subsets of the 25 points that can be added to our initial 5 points to yield a polygon of lattice width at least 3; we would then simply check the largest number of lattice points. We have carried out this computation, and present the results in Appendix A. We also present the following argument, which will complete our proof without needing to rely on a computer.

First we split into four cases, depending on the number $k$ of lattice points at height $-1$: 4, 5, 6, or 7. When there are more than 4, we can eliminate more of the candidate points $(x, y)$ with $y \geq 1$ or $y = -2$; the sets of allowable points in these four cases are illustrated in Figure 7. In each case we will argue that our polygon $P$ has at most 13 lattice points.
Figure 6: Possible lattice points in $P$, with impossible points labelled by the argument ruling them out

- Suppose $k = 4$. There are 20 possible points at height $-1$ or above; since there is at most one point at height $-2$, it suffices to show that we can fit no more than 12 lattice points at height $-1$ or above into a lattice polygon.

First suppose the point $(-5, 4)$ is in $P$. This eliminates 9 possible points from appearing in $P$, yielding at most $20 - 9 + 1 = 12$ lattice points total in $P$. Leaving out $(-5, 4)$ but including $(-4, 3)$ similarly eliminates 9 possible points. Including $(-2, 3)$ eliminates 8; including $(-1, 3)$ and leaving out $(-2, 3)$ eliminates 8; including $(1, 4)$ eliminates 9; and including $(1, 3)$ and leaving out $(1, 4)$ eliminates 9. In all these cases, we can conclude that $P$ has at most 13 lattice points in total.

The only remaining case is that all lattice points of $P$ have heights between $-2$ and 2. The polygon can have at most one lattice point at height $-2$, at most one lattice point at height 2, and some assortment of the 11 total points with heights between $-1$ and 1. Once again, $P$ can have at most 13 lattice points.

- Suppose $k = 5$. If $P$ includes the point $(-4, 3)$, then it cannot include $(-2, 3)$, $(-1, 2)$, or $(0, 1)$. Combined with the fact that $P$ can only have one lattice point at height $-2$, this leaves $P$ with at most 13 total lattice points. A similar argument holds if $P$ includes the point $(-2, 3)$. If $P$ contains neither $(-4, 3)$ nor $(-2, 3)$, then it has at most 1 point at height 3, at most one point at height $-2$, and some collection of the 11 points between. Thus $P$ has at most 13 lattice points.

- Suppose $k = 6$. Since $P$ has at most one lattice point at height $-2$, and only 12 points are allowed outside of that height, $P$ has at most 13 lattice points total.

- Suppose $k = 7$. Since $P$ has at most one lattice point at height $-2$, and only 11 points are allowed outside of that height, $P$ has at most 12 lattice points total.

We conclude that $|P \cap \mathbb{Z}^2| \leq 13$. 

As detailed in Appendix A, we enumerated all nonhyperelliptic polygons containing the five prescribed points from the previous proof, along with some subset of the other 25 permissible points. The end result was 69 nonhyperelliptic panoptigons of lattice diameter 3 or more, up to equivalence. In the same appendix we show that there are 3 nonhyperelliptic panoptigons with lattice diameter at most 2, yielding a grand total of 72 nonhyperelliptic panoptigons. If we instead wish to count panoptigons of lattice width at least 3, this count becomes 73 due to the inclusion of $T_3$.

We remark that it is possible to give a much shorter proof that there are only finitely many nonhyperelliptic panoptigons. Suppose that $P$ is a panoptigon of lattice diameter $\ell(P) \geq 7$. By the same argument that
Figure 7: Narrowing down possible points depending on the number of points at height $-1$

started our previous proof, we may assume without loss of generality that $P$ has $(0, 0)$ as a panoptigon point as well as eight or more lattice points at height $-1$. If $P$ contains a point of the form $(x, y)$ where $y \geq 2$, then the line segment $P \cap L$ where $L$ is the $x$-axis must have length at least 

$$7 \left(1 - \frac{1}{y+1}\right) \geq 7 \left(1 - \frac{1}{2+1}\right) = \frac{14}{3} > 4.$$ 

As such $P$ must contain at least 4 points at height 0, impossible since there are only 3 visible points at this height. Similarly $P$ can have no lattice points at height 1: these would force the inclusion of either $(2, 0)$ or $(-2, 0)$. Finally, if $P$ contains a point of the form $(x, y)$ where $y \leq -3$, then the line segment $P \cap L'$ where $L'$ is the horizontal line at height $-2$ must have width at least 

$$7 \left(1 - \frac{1}{|y|-1}\right) \geq 7 \left(1 - \frac{1}{3-1}\right) = \frac{7}{2} > 3.$$ 

As such we know that $P$ must contain at least 3 lattice points at height $-2$, impossible since no two consecutive points at that height are both visible. Thus we know that $P$ only has lattice points at heights 0, $-1$, and $-2$, and so is a hyperelliptic polygon. This means that if $P$ is a nonhyperelliptic panoptigon, it must have $\ell(P) \leq 6$. Since $|P \cap \mathbb{Z}^2| \leq (\ell(P) + 1)^2$, it follows that if $P$ is a nonhyperelliptic panoptigon then it must have at most $(6+1)^2 = 49$ lattice points; there are any finitely many such polygons. In principle one could enumerate all such polygons with at most 49 lattice points as in [6] and check which are panoptigons; this would be much less efficient than the computation led to by our longer proof.

4 Characterizing all maximal polygons of lattice width 3 or 4

In this section we will characterize all maximal polygons of lattice width 3 or 4. By Lemma 2.2, this will allow us to determine which polygons of lattice width 1 or 2 can be the interior polygon of some lattice polygon. This will be helpful in Section 5, when we will need to know which of the infinitely many panoptigons of lattice width at most 2 can be an interior polygon.

For lattice width 3, we do have the triangle $T_3$ as an exceptional case; all other polygons with lattice width 3 must have an interior polygon of lattice width 1.

**Proposition 4.1.** Let $P$ be a maximal polygon. Then $P$ has lattice width 3 if and only if up to equivalence we either have $P = T_3$, or $P = T_{a,b}^{(-1)}$ where $a \geq \frac{1}{2}b - 1$, $0 \leq a \leq b$, and $b \geq 1$, and where $T_{a,b} \neq T_1$.

**Proof.** If $P$ is equivalent to $T_3$, then it has lattice width 3 as desired. If $P$ is equivalent to some other $T_d$, then $P$ has lattice width $d \neq 3$, and so need not be considered.

Now assume $P$ is not equivalent to $T_d$ for any $d$, so that $P$ has lattice width 3 if and only if $P_{\text{int}}$ has lattice width 1 by Lemma 2.2. This is the case if and only if $P_{\text{int}}$ is equivalent to $T_{a,b}$ for some $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}$ where $0 \leq a \leq b$ and $b \geq 1$ (where $T_{a,b} \neq T_3$) by Theorem 2.3. Thus to prove our claim, it suffices to show that $T_{a,b}^{(-1)}$ is a lattice polygon if and only if $a \geq \frac{1}{2}b - 1$. 

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We set the following notation to describe \( T_{a,b} \). Starting with the face connecting \((0,0)\) and \((0,1)\) and moving counterclockwise, label the faces of \( T_{a,b} \) as \( \tau_1, \tau_2, \tau_3, \) and \( \tau_4 \) (where \( \tau_4 \) does not appear if \( a = 0 \)).

Pushing out the faces, we find that \( \tau_1^{(-1)} \) lies on the line \( x = -1 \), \( \tau_2^{(-1)} \) on the line \( y = -1 \), \( \tau_3^{(-1)} \) on the line \( x + (b-a)y = b + 1 \), and \( \tau_4^{(-1)} \) on the line \( y = 2 \). Note that working cyclically, we have \( \tau_i^{(-1)} \cap \tau_{i+1}^{(-1)} \) is a lattice point: we get the points \((-1,-1), (2b-a+1,1), (2a-b+1,2), \) and \((-1,2)\). Thus if these are the vertices of \( T_{a,b}^{(-1)} \), then \( T_{a,b}^{(-1)} \) is a lattice polygon. Certainly \((-1,-1)\) and \((2b-a+1,1)\) appear in \( T_{a,b}^{(-1)} \). The points \((2a-b+1,2)\) and \((-1,2)\) will appear as (not necessarily distinct) vertices of \( T_{a,b}^{(-1)} \) if and only if \( 2a-b+1 \geq -1 \); that is, if and only if \( a \geq \frac{1}{2}b - 1 \). Thus in the case that \( a \geq \frac{1}{2}b - 1 \), we have that \( T_{a,b}^{(-1)} \) is a lattice polygon with vertices at \((-1,-1), (2b-a+1,1), (2a-b+1,2), \) and \((-1,2)\).

If on the other hand \( a < \frac{1}{2}b - 1 \), then \( \tau_4^{(-1)} \) is not a face of \( T_{a,b}^{(-1)} \), and so one of the vertices of \( T_{a,b}^{(-1)} \) is \( \tau_1^{(-1)} \cap \tau_3^{(-1)} \). These faces intersect at the point \( \left( \frac{b+2}{b-a}, -1 \right) \), where we may divide by \( b-a \) since \( a < \frac{1}{2}b - 1 \) and so \( a \neq b \). Note that \( b-a > b - \frac{1}{2}b + 1 = \frac{1}{2}(b+2) \). It follows that that \( \frac{b+2}{b-a} < 2 \), and certainly \( \frac{b+2}{b-a} > 1 \), so \( \left( \frac{b+2}{b-a}, -1 \right) \) is not a lattice point. We conclude that \( T_{a,b}^{(-1)} \) is a lattice polygon if and only if \( a \geq \frac{1}{2}b - 1 \), thus completing our proof. \( \square \)

The explicitness of this result, combined with the fact that \( g \left(T_{a,b}^{(-1)}\right) = a+b+2 \), allows us to count the number of maximal polygons \( P \) of genus \( g \) with lattice width 3 as

\[
\left\lfloor \frac{g-2}{2} \right\rfloor - \left\lfloor \frac{g-4}{3} \right\rfloor + 1
\]

when \( g \geq 4 \).

We now wish to classify maximal polygons \( P \) of lattice width 4. One possibility is that \( P \) is \( T_1 \). Other than this example, the interior polygon \( P_{\text{int}} \) must have lattice width 2. Note that if \( g(P_{\text{int}}) = 0 \), then \( P_{\text{int}} = T_2 \); this has relaxed polygon \( T_5 \), which has lattice width 5 and so is not under consideration. If \( g(P_{\text{int}}) = 1 \), then \( P_{\text{int}} \) is one of the polygons in Figure 3. It turns out that all of these can be relaxed to a lattice polygon, each of which has lattice width 4; these polygons are illustrated in Figure 8.

![Figure 8: The lattice width 4 polygons with exactly one doubly interior point](image)

Now we deal with the most general case of polygons with \( \text{lw}(P) = 4 \), namely those where \( P_{\text{int}} \) has lattice width 2 and genus \( g^{(1)} \geq 2 \). Thus \( P_{\text{int}} \) must be one of the \( \frac{1}{2}(g+3)(2g^2+15g+16) \) hyperelliptic polygons presented in Theorem 2.3. We must now determine which of these hyperelliptic polygons \( Q \) have a relaxed polygon \( Q^{(-1)} \) that has lattice points for vertices. We do this over three lemmas, which consider the polygons of Type 1, Type 2, and Type 3 separately.

**Lemma 4.2.** If \( Q \) is of Type 1, then the relaxed polygon \( Q^{(-1)} \) is a lattice polygon if and only if \( i \leq \frac{3g+1}{2} \).

**Proof.** Let \( \tau_1, \tau_2, \tau_3, \) and \( \tau_4 \) denote the four one-dimensional faces of \( Q \), proceeding counterclockwise starting from the face connecting \((0,0)\) and \((1,2)\) (note that \( \tau_4 \) does not appear as a one-dimensional face if \( i = 2g \)). Consider the relaxed faces \( \tau_1^{(-1)}, \tau_2^{(-1)}, \tau_3^{(-1)}, \) and \( \tau_4^{(-1)} \). These lie on the lines \(-2x+y = 1, y = -1, 2x+(2i-2g-1)y = 2i+1, \) and \( y = 3 \). Proceeding cyclically, the intersection points \( \tau_i^{(-1)} \cap \tau_{i+1}^{(-1)} \) of these
relaxed faces are \((-1, -1), (2i - g, -1), (3g - 2i + 2, 3), \) and \((1, 3)\). All these points are lattice points, so if they are indeed the vertices of \(P_{\text{pat}}\) then \(Q^{(-1)}\) is a lattice polygon.

The one situation in which our relaxed polygon will not have all lattice points is if \(\tau_1^{(-1)}\) and \(\tau_3^{(-1)}\) intersect at a height strictly below 3, cutting off the face \(\tau_4^{(-1)}\) and yielding a vertex with y coordinate strictly between 2 and 3. These faces intersect at \(\left(\frac{g+1}{g-j}, \frac{4g-2j+5}{g-j+1}\right)\), which has y-coordinate strictly smaller than 3 if and only if \(\frac{i+1}{g-j} < 3\), which can be rewritten as \(i+1 < 3g - 3j\), or as \(\frac{3g+1}{2} < i\). Thus when \(i \leq \frac{3g+1}{2}\), our relaxed polygon is a lattice polygon; and when \(i > \frac{3g+1}{2}\), it is not.

\[\text{Lemma 4.3. If } Q \text{ is of Type 2, then the relaxed polygon } Q^{(-1)} \text{ is a lattice polygon if and only if } i \geq \frac{g}{2} + 1 \text{ and } j \geq \frac{g-1}{2}.\]

**Proof.** Label the faces of \(Q\) cyclically as \(\tau_1, \tau_2, \tau_3, \tau_4, \) and \(\tau_5\). Due to the form of the slopes of these faces, the relaxed face \(\tau_1^{(-1)}\) will intersect the relaxed face \(\tau_4^{(-1)}\) at a lattice point; this is true for \(\tau_1\) with \(\tau_2\) and \(\tau_3\) by computation, and for any horizontal line with a face of slope 1/k for some integer \(k\). Similarly, we are fine with the intersections of \(\tau_3^{(-1)}\) and \(\tau_4^{(-1)}\); these will always intersect at the lattice point \((g+2, 1)\). Thus the only way the relaxed polygon will fail to have lattice vertices is if certain edges are lost while pushing out. Considering the normal fan of \(Q\), this leads to two possible cases for \(Q\) to not be integral: if the face \(\tau_2^{(-1)}\) is lost, and if the face \(\tau_5^{(-1)}\) is lost.

First we consider the case that \(\tau_2^{(-1)}\) is lost due to \(\tau_1^{(-1)}\) and \(\tau_3^{(-1)}\) intersecting at a point with y-coordinate strictly between 0 and -1; note that this can only happen when \(i < g\). The face \(\tau_1^{(-1)}\) is on the line \(-2x + y = 1\), and \(\tau_3^{(-1)}\) is on the line \(x - (g + 1 - i)y = i + 1\). These intersect at \(-\frac{g+2}{2g-2j+1}, -\frac{4g-2j+5}{2g-2j+1}\). Note that \(-\frac{2i+3}{2g-2j+1} > -1\) is equivalent to \(\frac{2i+3}{2g-2j+1} < 1\), which in turn is equivalent to \(2i + 3 < 2g - 2j + 1\). This simplifies to \(i < \frac{g}{2} + 1\). Thus we have a collapse of \(\tau_2^{(-1)}\) that introduces a non-lattice vertex point if and only if \(i < \frac{g}{2} + 1\).

Now we consider the case that \(\tau_5^{(-1)}\) is lost due to \(\tau_1^{(-1)}\) and \(\tau_4^{(-1)}\) intersecting at a point with y-coordinate strictly between 2 and 3. The face \(\tau_4^{(-1)}\) lies on the line with equation \(x + (g - j)y = 2g - j + 2\). This intersects \(\tau_1^{(-1)}\) at \(\left(-\frac{4g-j+5}{2g-2j+1}, \frac{4g-2j+5}{2g-2j+1}\right)\). Having \(\frac{4g-j+5}{2g-2j+1} < 3\) is equivalent to \(4g - 2j + 5 < 6g - 6j + 3\), which can be rewritten as \(4j < 2g - 2\), or \(j < \frac{g-1}{2}\). Thus we have a collapse of \(\tau_5^{(-1)}\) that introduces a non-lattice vertex point if and only if \(j < \frac{g-1}{2}\).

We conclude that \(Q^{(-1)}\) is a lattice polygon if and only if \(i \geq \frac{g}{2} + 1\) and \(j \geq \frac{g-1}{2}\).

\[\text{Lemma 4.4. If } Q \text{ is of Type 3, then the relaxed polygon } Q^{(-1)} \text{ is a lattice polygon if and only if } i \geq g/2 \text{ and } j \geq g/2.\]

**Proof.** Label the faces of \(Q\) cyclically as \(\tau_1, \ldots, \tau_6\), where \(\tau_1\) is the face containing the lattice points \((k, 2)\) and \((0, 1)\) (with the understanding that some faces might not appear if one or more of \(i, j, k\) are equal to 0). If the faces \(\tau_1^{(-1)}, \ldots, \tau_6^{(-1)}\) are all present in the polygon \(P^{(-1)}\), then they intersect at lattice points by the arguments from the previous proof. Thus we need only be concerned with the following cases: where \(\tau_3^{(-1)}\) collapses due to \(\tau_2^{(-1)}\) and \(\tau_4^{(-1)}\) intersecting at a point \((x, y)\) with \(0 < y < -1\); and where \(\tau_6^{(-1)}\) collapses due to \(\tau_5^{(-1)}\) and \(\tau_1^{(-1)}\) intersecting at a point \((x, y)\) with \(2 < y < 3\).

First we consider \(\tau_2^{(-1)}\) and \(\tau_4^{(-1)}\). We have that \(\tau_2^{(-1)}\) lies on the line defined by \(x = -1\), and that \(\tau_4^{(-1)}\) lies on the line defined by \(x = -(g + 1 - i)y = i + 1\). These lines intersect at \(\left(-1, -\frac{g+j+2}{g-j+1}\right)\). The y-coordinate is strictly greater than \(-1\) when \(\frac{i+1}{g-j+1} < 1\), i.e. when \(i+1 < g+1 - i\), which can be rewritten as \(i < \frac{g}{2}\). Thus we lose \(\tau_3^{(-1)}\) to a non-lattice vertex precisely when \(i < \frac{g}{2}\).

Now we consider \(\tau_5^{(-1)}\) and \(\tau_1^{(-1)}\). We have that \(\tau_1^{(-1)}\) lies on the line \(x - ky = -k + 1\), unless \(k = 0\) in which case it lies on the line \(x = -1\); and that \(\tau_5^{(-1)}\) lies on the line \(x + (g+1-k-j)y = 2g + 2 - k - j\). In the event that \(k \neq 0\), these intersect at \(\left(\frac{gk+g-j+1}{g-j+1}, \frac{2g-j+1}{g-j+1}\right)\), which has y-coordinate strictly smaller than 3 when \(\frac{2g-j+1}{g-j+1} < 3\), or equivalently if \(2g - j + 1 < 3g - 3j + 1\), or equivalently if \(j < \frac{g}{2}\). For the \(k = 0\) case, the
intersection point becomes \((-1, \frac{2g-j+3}{g-j+1})\), which has \(y\)-coordinate strictly smaller than 3 when \(\frac{2g-j+3}{g-j+1} < 3\), or equivalently when \(2g - j + 3 < 3g - 3j - 3k + 3\), or equivalently when \(j < \frac{g}{2}\). Thus we have a non-lattice vertex due to \(\tau_5^{(-1)}\) collapsing precisely when \(j < \frac{g}{2}\).

We conclude that \(Q^{(-1)}\) is a lattice polygon if and only if \(i \geq g/2 \) and \(j \geq g/2\).

Combining Lemmas 4.2, 4.3, and 4.4 and the preceding discussion, we have the following classification of maximal polygons with lattice width 4.

**Proposition 4.5.** Let \(P\) be a maximal polygon of lattice width 4. Then up to lattice equivalence, \(P\) is either \(T_4\); one of the 14 polygons in Figure 8; or \(Q^{(-1)}\), where \(Q\) is a hyperelliptic polygon satisfying the conditions of Lemma 4.2, 4.3, or 4.4.

The most important consequence of Propositions 4.1 and 4.5 is that we can determine which planotigons of lattice width 1 or lattice width 2 are interior polygons of some lattice polygon. We summarize this with the following result.

**Corollary 4.6.** Let \(Q\) be a planotigon with \(\text{lw}(Q)\leq 2\) such that \(Q^{(-1)}\) is lattice polygon. Then \(|Q \cap \mathbb{Z}^2| \leq 11\).

**Proof.** If \(\text{lw}(Q) = 1\) with \(Q^{(-1)}\) a lattice polygon, then \(Q\) must be the triangle \(T_{a,b}\) with \(0 \leq a \leq b, b \geq 1\), and \(a \geq \frac{b}{2} - 1\) by Proposition 4.1. In order for \(T_{a,b}\) to be a planotigon, we need \(a \leq 2\) by Lemma 3.1, so \(2 \geq \frac{b}{2} - 1\), implying \(b \leq 6\). It follows that \(|Q \cap \mathbb{Z}^2| = a + b + 2 \leq 2 + 6 + 2 = 10\).

Now assume \(\text{lw}(Q) = 2\) with \(Q^{(-1)}\) a lattice polygon. If \(Q\) has genus 0 then it is \(T_2\), and has 6 lattice points. If \(Q\) has genus 1 then it is one of the polygons in Figure 3, and so has at most 9 lattice points. Outside of these situations, we know that \(Q\) is a hyperelliptic planotigon of genus \(g \geq 2\) as characterized in Lemma 3.3. We deal with two cases: where \(Q\) has a planotigon point at height 1, and where it does not.

In the first case, we either have \(g = 2\) with \(Q\) of Type 1 or Type 2, or \(g = 3\) with \(Q\) of Type 1. A hyperelliptic polygon of Type 1 has \((i+1) + (1+2g-i) = 2g + 2\) boundary points. A hyperelliptic polygon of Type 2 has \(i + j + 3\) boundary points. If \(Q\) is of Type 1, then it has in total \(3g + 2 \leq 11\) lattice points. If \(Q\) is of Type 2, then \(i + j \leq 2g + 1 = 2 \cdot 2 + 1 = 5\), implying that \(Q\) has a total of \(i + j + 3 + g \leq 5 + 3 + 2 = 10\) lattice points.

In the second case, we know that \(Q\) must have at most 3 points at height 0 or 2, and exactly 1 point at the other height. First we claim that \(Q\) cannot be of Type 1: there are \(2g + 2 \geq 6\) boundary points, all at height 0 or 2, and \(Q\) can have at most 4 points total at those heights. For Types 2 and 3, we know by Lemmas 4.3 and 4.4 that either \(i \geq \frac{g}{2} + 1\) and \(j \geq \frac{2g-j}{2}\), or \(i \geq \frac{g}{2}\) and \(j \geq \frac{g}{2}\). At least one of \(i\) and \(j\) must equal 0 to allow for a single point at height 0 or height 2, so these inequalities are impossible for \(g \geq 2\). Thus \(Q\) cannot have Type 2 or Type 3 either, and this case never occurs.

We conclude that if \(Q\) is a planotigon of lattice width 1 or 2 such that \(Q^{(-1)}\) is a lattice polygon, then \(|Q \cap \mathbb{Z}^2| \leq 11\).

## 5 Big face graphs are not tropically planar

Let \(G\) be a planar graph. Recall that we say that \(G\) is a big face graph if for any planar embedding of \(G\), there exists a bounded face that shares an edge with every other bounded face. Our main examples of big face graphs will come from the following construction. Following [4, §6], we can construct a chain of genus \(g\) by starting with \(g\) cycles in a row, connected at \(g - 1\) 4-valent vertices; and then resolving each 4-valent vertex into two 3-valent vertices by either inserting a bridge or allowing a shared edge between the two cycles. Given such a chain, we can construct a looped chain of genus \(g + 1\) by adding an edge from the first cycle to the last one. The three chains of genus 3 are illustrated in Figure 9, along with the corresponding looped chains of genus 4. For larger genus, we remark that two non-isomorphic chains can give rise to isomorphic looped chains.

We now argue that any looped chain is a big face graph. In the standard embedding of a looped chain as in Figure 9, there are (at least) two faces that share an edge with all other faces: one bounded and one unbounded. By a special case of Whitney’s 2-switching theorem [18, Theorem 2.6.8], since a looped chain is
2-connected we know that any other planar embedding can be reached, up to weak equivalence\(^3\), from the standard embedding by a sequence of \textit{flippings}. A flipping of a planar embedding finds a cycle \(C\) with only two vertices \(v\) and \(w\) incident to edges exterior to \(C\), and then reverses the orientation of \(C\) and all vertices and edges interior to \(C\) to obtain a new embedding. For a looped chain, any such flipping does not change the embedding if we consider the vertices to be unlabelled: a flipping just rotates a subgraph isomorphic to a subdivision of a chain. Thus every embedding of a looped chain has at least two faces sharing an edge with every other face; at least one of these must be bounded, so any looped chain is a big face graph.

We summarize the connection between big face graphs and panoptigons in the following lemma.

\textbf{Lemma 5.1.} Suppose that \(G\) is a tropically planar big face graph arising from a polygon \(P\). Then \(P_{\text{int}}\) is a panoptigon.

\textit{Proof.} Let \(\Delta\) be a regular unimodular triangulation of \(P\) such that \(G\) is the skeleton of the weak dual graph of \(\Delta\). The embedding of \(G\) arising from this construction must have a bounded face \(F\) bordering all other faces. By duality, we know that \(F\) corresponds to an interior lattice point \(p\) of \(P\). Since \(F\) shares an edge with all other bounded faces, dually \(p\) is connected to each other interior point of \(P\) by a primitive edge in \(\Delta\). Thus \(P_{\text{int}}\) is a panoptigon, with \(p\) a panoptigon point for it. \(\square\)

One common example of a looped chain of genus \(g\) is the \textit{loop of loops} \(L_g\), obtained by connecting \(g - 1\) biedges in a loop. This is illustrated in Figure 10 for \(g\) from 3 to 6. For low genus, the loop of loops is tropically planar. Figure 11 illustrates polygons of genus \(g\) for \(3 \leq g \leq 10\) along with collections of edges emanating from an interior point; when completed to a regular unimodular triangulation\(^4\), they will yield \(L_g\) as the dual tropical skeleton. Thus \(L_g\) is tropically planar for \(g \leq 10\). Another example of a tropically planar looped chain, this one of genus 11, is pictured in Figure 12, along with a regular unimodular triangulation of a polygon giving rise to it. Since the theta graph of genus 2 is also tropically planar [4, Example 2.5] and

\[^3\text{Weak equivalence means two graph embeddings have the same facial structure, although possibly with different unbounded faces.}\]

\[^4\text{One way to see that this can be accomplished is to use a placing triangulation [11, §3.2.1], where the highlighted panoptigon point is placed first and the other lattice points are placed in any order.}\]
is a big face graph, there exists at least one tropically planar big face graph of genus \( g \) for \( 2 \leq g \leq 11 \). We are now ready to prove that this does not hold for \( g \geq 14 \).

**Proof of Theorem 1.2.** Let \( G \) be a tropically planar big face graph, and let \( P \) be a lattice polygon giving rise to it. By Lemma 5.1, \( P_{\text{int}} \) is a panoptigon. If \( \text{lw}(P_{\text{int}}) \leq 2 \), then \( g = |P_{\text{int}} \cap \mathbb{Z}^2| \leq 11 \) by Corollary 4.6. If \( \text{lw}(P_{\text{int}}) \geq 3 \), then \( g = |P_{\text{int}} \cap \mathbb{Z}^2| \leq 13 \) by Theorem 1.1. Either way, we may conclude that the genus of \( G \) is at most 13.

If we are willing to rely on our computational enumeration of all nonhyperelliptic panoptigons, we can push this further: there does not exist a tropically planar big face graph for \( g \geq 12 \), and this bound is sharp. We have already seen in Figure 12 that there exists a tropically planar big face graph of genus 11. To see that none have higher genus, first note that if \( P_{\text{int}} \) is a panoptigon with 12 or 13 lattice points, then \( P_{\text{int}} \) must be nonhyperelliptic by Corollary 4.6. Thus \( P_{\text{int}} \) must be one of the 15 nonhyperelliptic panoptigons with 12 lattice points, or one of the 8 nonhyperelliptic panoptigons with 13 lattice points, as presented in Appendix A. However, for each of these polygons \( Q \), we have verified computationally that \( Q^{(-1)} \) is not a lattice polygon; see Figure 16. Thus no lattice polygon of genus \( g \geq 12 \) has an interior polygon that is also a panoptigon. It follows from Lemma 5.1 that no big face graph of genus larger than 11 is tropically planar. We close with several possible directions for future research.

- For any lattice point \( p \), let \( \text{vis}(p) \) denote the set of all lattice points visible to \( p \) (including \( p \) itself). Given a convex lattice polygon \( P \), define its visibility number to be the minimum number of lattice points in \( P \) needed so that we can see every lattice point from one of them:

\[
V(P) = \min \left\{|S| : S \subset P \cap \mathbb{Z}^2 \text{ and } P \cap \mathbb{Z}^2 \subset \bigcup_{p \in S} \text{vis}(p)\} \right. .
\]

Thus \( P \) is a panoptigon if and only if \( V(P) = 1 \). Classifying polygons of fixed visibility number \( V(P) \), or finding relationships between \( V(P) \) and such properties as genus and lattice width, could be interesting in its own right, and could provide new criteria for determining whether graphs are...
tropically planar; for instance, the prism graph $P_n = K_2 \times C_n$ can only arise from a polygon $P$ with $V(P) \leq 2$. This question is in some sense a lattice point version of the art gallery problem.

- We can generalize from two-dimensional panoptigons to $n$-dimensional panoptitopes, which we define to be convex lattice polytopes containing a lattice point $p$ from which all the polytope’s other lattice points are visible. A few of our results generalize immediately; for instance, the proof of Lemma 3.2 works in $n$-dimensions, so any polytope with exactly one interior lattice point is a panoptitope. A complete classification of $n$-dimensional panoptitopes for $n \geq 3$ will be more difficult than it was in two-dimensions, especially since it is no longer the case that there are finitely many polytopes with a fixed number of lattice points. Results about panoptitopes would also have applications in tropical geometry; for instance, an understanding of three-dimensional panoptitopes would have implications for the structure of tropical surfaces in $\mathbb{R}^3$.

- To any lattice polygon we can associate a toric surface [10]. An interesting question for future research would be to investigate those toric surfaces that are associated to panoptigons, or more generally toric varieties associated to panoptitopes.

A Panoptigon computations

From the proof of Theorem 1.1, we know that any panoptigon of lattice width and lattice diameter both at least 3 must be equivalent to a polygon consisting of some subset of the thirty lattice points pictured in Figure 6, where the points $(0,0), (-1,-1), (0,-1), (1,-1),$ and $(2,-1)$ must be included. Using polymake [12], we ran through all possible convex polygons consisting only of these 30 points. Ruling out those without interior lattice points or with all lattice points collinear, we found a total of 215 distinct polygons, some of which were equivalent under a unimodular transformation. These 215 polygons are available as the collection “Non-hyperelliptic Panoptigons” in polyDB [20] at https://db.polymake.org. Eliminating redundant copies, we find that there are a total of 69 nonhyperelliptic panoptigons of lattice width and lattice diameter both at least 3, up to lattice equivalence; these appear in Figure 15. The panoptigons with 12 or 13 lattice points appear in Figure 16, along with their relaxed polygons. Each relaxed polygon has at least one nonlattice vertex, marked by a square. The computation of these relaxed polygons verifies that no nonhyperelliptic panoptigon with 12 or 13 lattice points is the interior polygon of a lattice polygon.

To complete an enumeration of all nonhyperelliptic panoptigons of genus $g \geq 3$, it remains to find those panoptigons $P$ that have lattice diameter smaller than 3. We accomplish this with the following proposition.

**Proposition A.1.** Let $P$ be a nonhyperelliptic panoptigon of lattice diameter at most 2. Then up to lattice equivalence $P$ is either the triangle $\text{conv}((0,1), (0,3), (4,0))$, the quadrilateral $\text{conv}((1,0), (2,0), (3,1), (0,3))$, or the quadrilateral $\text{conv}((0,1), (0,2), (2,3), (3,0))$.

These three polygons are illustrated in Figure 13.

![Figure 13: The three nonhyperelliptic panoptigons from Proposition A.1](image)

**Proof.** Since $P$ is nonhyperelliptic, we know that $\text{lw}(P) \geq 3$. Note that we cannot have $\ell(P) = 1$, since then we would have $\text{lw}(P) \leq \lceil \frac{3}{2} \ell(P) \rceil + 1 = 2$. Thus $\ell(P) = 2$. It follows that $\text{lw}(P) \leq \lceil \frac{3}{2} \ell(P) \rceil + 1 = 2 + 1 = 3$, so $\text{lw}(P) = 3$. We know $P$ is not $T_3$ since $T_3$ is hyperelliptic, so we know that the interior polygon $P_{\text{int}}$ must have lattice width 1. It follows that $P_{\text{int}}$ must be a trapezoid of height 1, and since $\ell(P) = 2$ that trapezoid must have at most 3 lattice points at each height; thus $P_{\text{int}} = T_{a,b}$ where $0 \leq a \leq b \leq 2$. It follows that $P$ must be contained in one of the polygons pictured in Figure 14; these are the maximal polygons associated...
to the candidates for $P_{\text{int}}$. In order to refer to the lattice points of these polygons with coordinates, we will assume that each is positioned to have the lower left corner at the origin $(0,0)$.

We claim that $P$ cannot have $T_{0,2}$, $T_{1,2}$, or $T_{2,2}$ as its interior polygon. In each of those cases, note that $P$ automatically has 3 interior points at height 1; since $\ell(P) = 2$, there can be no boundary lattice points at height 1. In order for boundary lattice points at height 0 to connect to boundary lattice points at height greater than 1, the points $(1,0)$ and $(4,0)$ must be included; but then there are 4 collinear lattice points at height 0, contradicting $\ell(P) = 2$.

Now suppose $P_{\text{int}} = T_{1,1}$. Note that no boundary point of the $3 \times 3$ square can see all interior points, so any panoptigon point $q$ must be an interior point. Without loss of generality, assume that it is $q = (1,1)$, meaning that the points $(1,3)$, $(3,1)$, and $(3,3)$ cannot be included in $P$. Among the two points $(2,3)$ and $(3,2)$, at least one must be included to allow for the desired interior polygon. By symmetry we may assume that $(2,3)$ is included. There cannot be any other points at height 3, so $(2,3)$ must be a vertex of $P$ and connect to a boundary point of the form $(0,b)$; the only possible such point is $(0,2)$. It then follows that $(3,2)$ cannot be included, since this would yield 4 collinear points at height 2. Thus $P$ has an edge connecting $(2,3)$ to $(3,0)$. The point $(2,0)$ cannot appear in $P$ since there are already three points with $x$-coordinate equal to 2, so $(3,0)$ must be connected to $(0,1)$. At this point, we know that $P = \text{conv}((0,1),(0,2),(2,3),(3,0))$. This is indeed a panoptigon of lattice width 3 and lattice diameter 2.

Finally we will deal with the case where $P_{\text{int}} = T_{0,1}$. We deal with several possibilities for the (not necessarily unique) panoptigon point $q$ of $P$.

- Suppose $q$ is an interior lattice point of $P$. By symmetry we may assume $q = (1,1)$, so the lattice points $(3,1)$ and $(1,3)$ cannot be included. Since there must at least one lattice point at height 3 or above, either $(0,3)$ or $(0,4)$ (or both) must be included. If it is only $(0,4)$ and not $(0,3)$, then the points $(1,0)$ and $(3,0)$ must be included, yielding the polygon $\text{conv}((1,0),(3,0),(0,4))$. Otherwise, $(0,3)$ is in $P$. Since $(0,3)$, $(1,2)$, and $(2,1)$ are all lattice points of $P$, the point $(3,0)$ cannot be included. Now, at least one lattice point from the diagonal edge must be included, namely $(4,0)$, $(2,2)$, or $(0,4)$; in fact, it must be exactly one, since otherwise $(1,3)$ or $(3,1)$ would be introduced by convexity. If $P$ contains $(0,4)$ or $(2,2)$ and no other points along that edge, then it must also contain $(3,0)$, which we have already ruled out. Thus $P$ contains $(4,0)$, and as it does not contain $(3,0)$ it must have an edge connecting $(4,0)$ to $(0,1)$. At this point there is a single possibility for $P$, namely $P = \text{conv}((0,1),(0,3),(4,0))$. This polygon is lattice equivalent to the previous one, so we need only include one. This panoptigon does indeed have lattice diameter 2.

- Now we deal with the case that the panoptigon point is a boundary point. Since the panoptigon point must see all three interior points, it must either be a vertex of $T_4$ or the midpoint of one of the edges. Up to symmetry, we may thus assume that $q$ is either $(0,0)$ or $(2,0)$. If $q = (0,0)$, then the point $(1,3)$ must be included; otherwise we would need $(0,3)$, which is not visible to $(0,0)$. Similarly $(1,3)$ is included, but then $(2,2)$ is included by convexity, and this point is not visible to $(0,0)$, a contradiction.

If $q = (2,0)$, then there are $1$, $2$, or $3$ points at height 0. If there is only $q$, then the points $(0,1)$ and $(3,1)$ must be included, contradicting $\ell(P) = 2$. If there are 2 points, we will assume by symmetry that the two points are $(1,0)$ and $(2,0)$. The lattice point $(3,1)$ must then be included and the point $(0,1)$ must not be included; the only remaining point to include from the face on the line $x=0$ is $(0,3)$. No other lattice points can be included, so then $P = \text{conv}((1,0),(2,0),(3,1),(0,3))$. Finally, if there are 3 points at height 0 they must be $(1,0)$, $(2,0)$, and $(3,0)$. But now neither $(0,3)$ nor $(1,3)$

Figure 14: Possible interior polygons for $P_{\text{int}}$, and polygons that must contain $P$
may be included since \( \ell(P) = 2 \). Since \((0, 4)\) is not visible from \(q\), there are no points in \(P\) with height greater than 2, a contradiction to \(T_{0,1}\) being the interior polygon of \(P\).

We conclude that the only nonhyperelliptic panoptigons \(P\) with \(\ell(P) \leq 2\) are the three claimed.

Combined with our computation, this gives us the following count.

**Corollary A.2.** Up to lattice equivalence, there are 72 nonhyperelliptic panoptigons.

**References**


Figure 15: All nonhyperelliptic panoptigons with lattice diameter at least 3
Figure 16: All nonhyperelliptic panoptigons with 12 or 13 lattice points, along with their relaxed polygons