

# An Optimal Algorithm for Detecting Pseudo-Squares

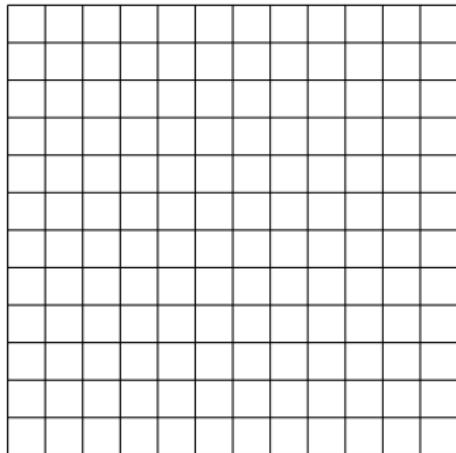
Srećko Brlek    Xavier Provençal

Laboratoire de Combinatoire et d'Informatique Mathématique,  
Université du Québec à Montréal,

October 25, 2006

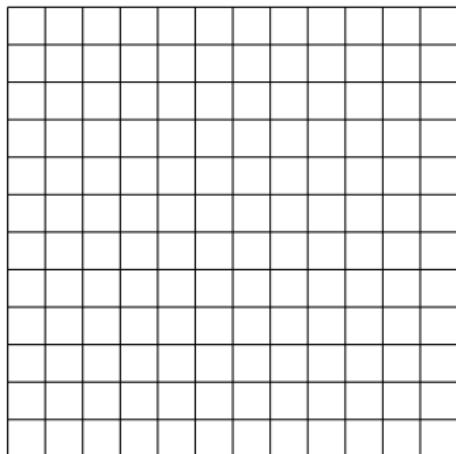
# Introduction to polyominoes

- Discrete plane :  $\mathbb{Z}^2$



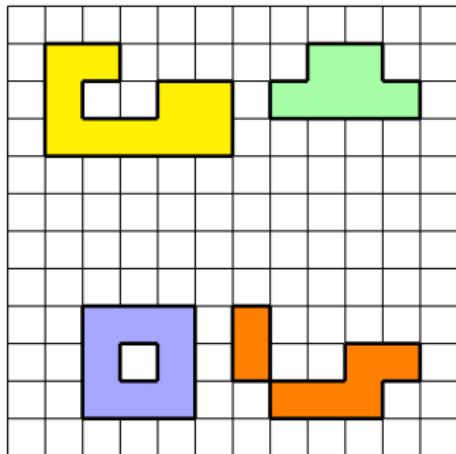
# Introduction to polyominoes

- Discrete plane :  $\mathbb{Z}^2$
- **Definition** : A *Polyomino* is a finite, 4-connected subset of the plane, without holes.



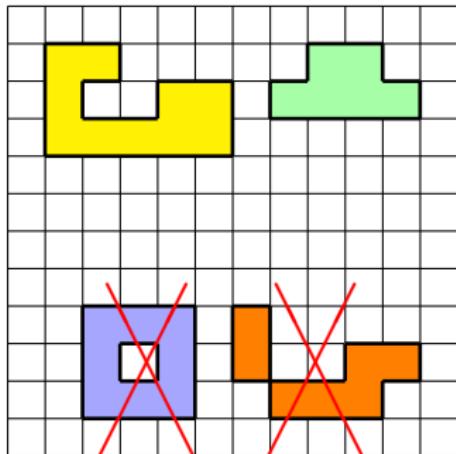
# Introduction to polyominoes

- Discrete plane :  $\mathbb{Z}^2$
- **Definition** : A *Polyomino* is a finite, 4-connected subset of the plane, without holes.



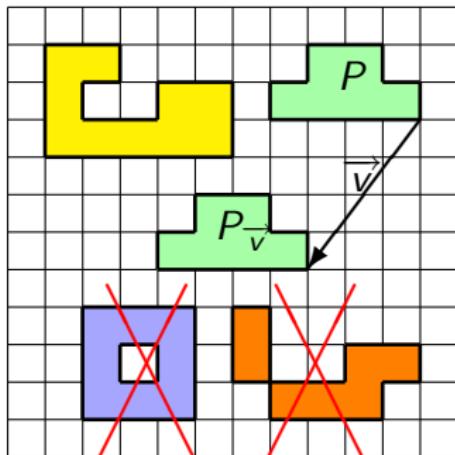
# Introduction to polyominoes

- Discrete plane :  $\mathbb{Z}^2$
- **Definition** : A *Polyomino* is a finite, 4-connected subset of the plane, without holes.



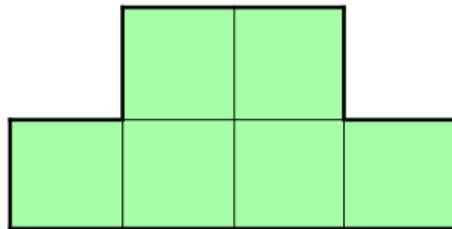
# Introduction to polyominoes

- Discrete plane :  $\mathbb{Z}^2$
- **Definition** : A *polyomino* is a finite, 4-connected subset of the plane, without holes.
- **Notation** : Let  $P$  be a polyomino and  $\vec{v}$  a vector of  $\mathbb{Z}^2$ ,  $P_{\vec{v}}$  will denote the image of  $P$  by the translation  $\vec{v}$ .



# Freeman chain code

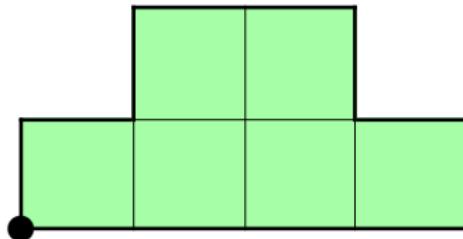
$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$



# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow \begin{matrix} b & \uparrow \\ \bar{b} & \downarrow \end{matrix} \\ \bar{a} \leftarrow \end{array}$$

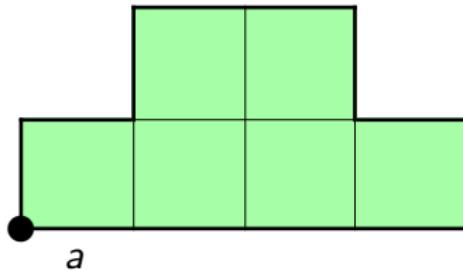


w =

# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow \begin{matrix} b & \uparrow \\ \bar{a} & \leftarrow \end{matrix} \\ \bar{a} \leftarrow \begin{matrix} b & \downarrow \\ \bar{b} & \downarrow \end{matrix} \end{array}$$

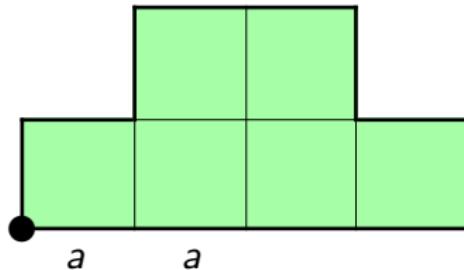


$$w = a$$

# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow \begin{matrix} b & \uparrow \\ \bar{b} & \downarrow \end{matrix} \\ \bar{a} \leftarrow \end{array}$$

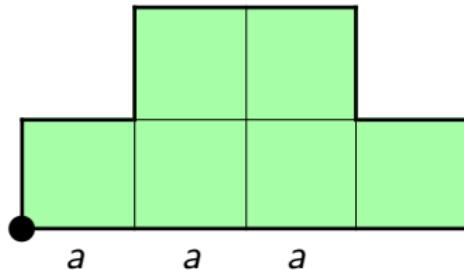


$$w = a\ a$$

# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow \begin{matrix} b & \uparrow \\ \bar{b} & \downarrow \end{matrix} \\ \bar{a} \leftarrow \end{array}$$

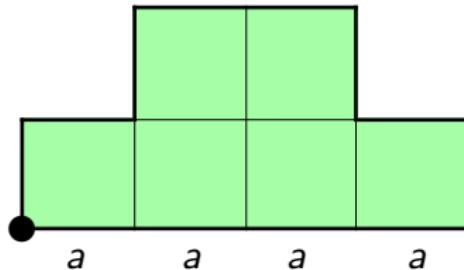


$$w = a \ a \ a$$

# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow \begin{matrix} b & \uparrow \\ \bar{b} & \downarrow \end{matrix} \\ \bar{a} \leftarrow \end{array}$$

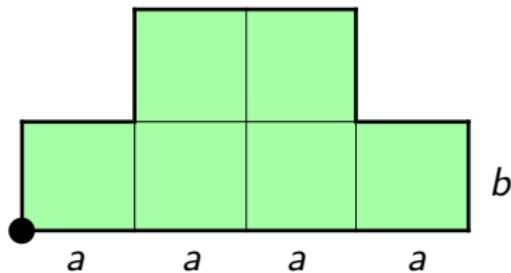


$$w = a \ a \ a \ a$$

# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow \begin{matrix} b & \uparrow \\ \bar{b} & \downarrow \end{matrix} \\ \bar{a} \leftarrow \end{array}$$

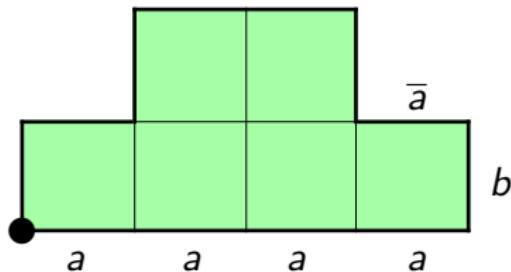


$$w = a \ a \ a \ a \ b$$

# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow \begin{matrix} b & \uparrow \\ \bar{b} & \downarrow \end{matrix} \\ \bar{a} \leftarrow \end{array}$$

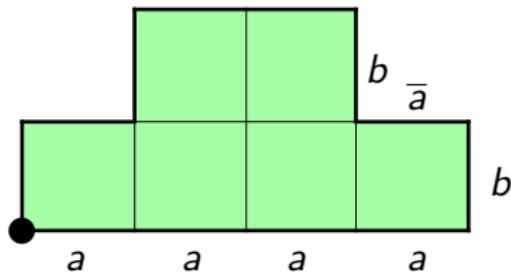


$$w = a \ a \ a \ a \ b \ \bar{a}$$

# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow \begin{matrix} b & \uparrow \\ \bar{b} & \downarrow \end{matrix} \\ \bar{a} \leftarrow \end{array}$$

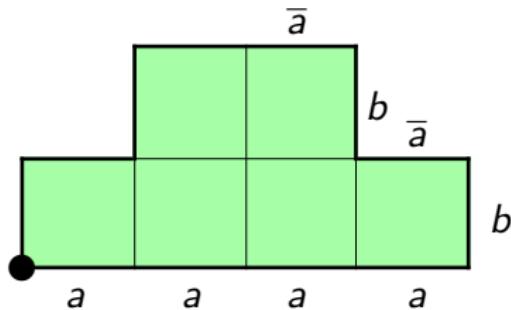


$$w = a \ a \ a \ a \ b \ \bar{a} \ b$$

# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow \begin{matrix} b & \uparrow \\ \bar{b} & \downarrow \end{matrix} \\ \bar{a} \leftarrow \end{array}$$

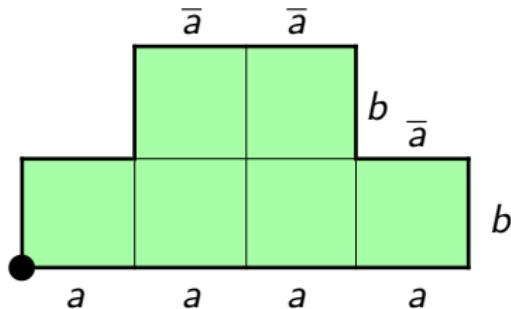


$$w = a \ a \ a \ a \ b \ \bar{a} \ b \ \bar{a}$$

# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow \begin{matrix} b & \uparrow \\ \bar{b} & \downarrow \end{matrix} \\ \bar{a} \leftarrow \end{array}$$

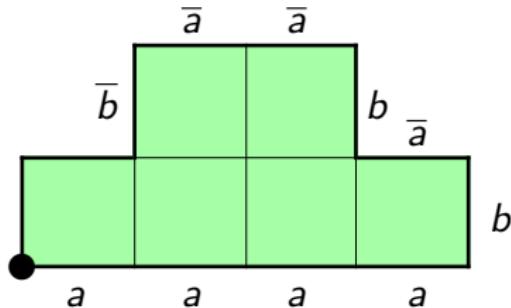


$$w = a \ a \ a \ a \ b \ \bar{a} \ b \ \bar{a} \ \bar{a}$$

# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow \begin{matrix} b & \uparrow \\ \bar{b} & \downarrow \end{matrix} \\ \bar{a} \leftarrow \begin{matrix} b & \downarrow \\ \bar{b} & \uparrow \end{matrix} \end{array}$$

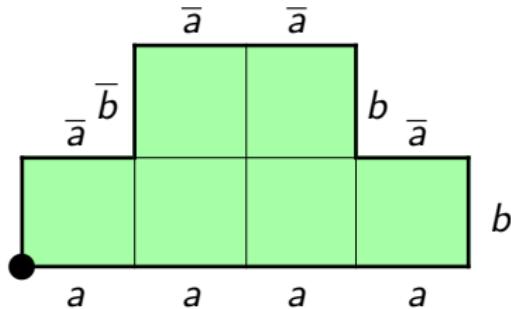


$$w = a \ a \ a \ a \ b \ \bar{a} \ b \ \bar{a} \ \bar{a} \ \bar{b}$$

# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow \begin{matrix} b & \uparrow \\ \bar{b} & \downarrow \end{matrix} \\ \bar{a} \leftarrow \end{array}$$

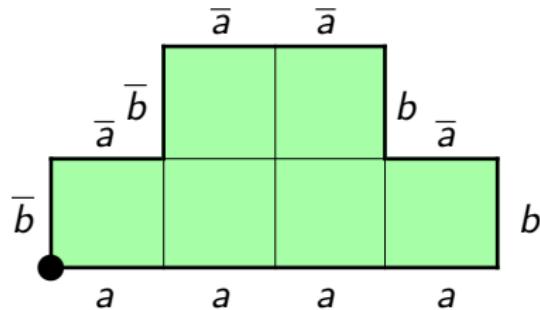


$$w = a \ a \ a \ a \ b \ \bar{a} \ b \ \bar{a} \ \bar{a} \ \bar{b} \ \bar{a}$$

# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} a \rightarrow \begin{matrix} b & \uparrow \\ \bar{b} & \downarrow \end{matrix} \\ \bar{a} \leftarrow \begin{matrix} b & \downarrow \\ \bar{b} & \uparrow \end{matrix} \end{array}$$

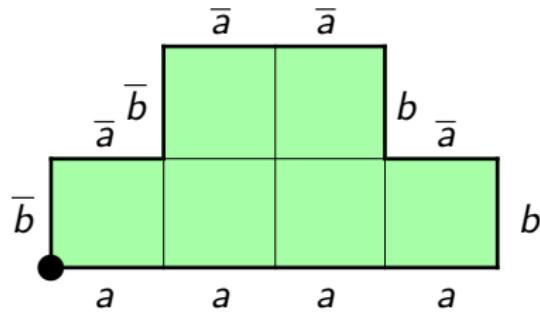


$$w = a \ a \ a \ a \ b \ \bar{a} \ b \ \bar{a} \ \bar{a} \ \bar{b} \ \bar{a} \ \bar{b}$$

# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$a \rightarrow$	$b \uparrow$
$\bar{a} \leftarrow$	$\bar{b} \downarrow$



$$w = a \ a \ a \ a \ b \ \bar{a} \ b \ \bar{a} \ \bar{a} \ \bar{b} \ \bar{a} \ \bar{b}$$

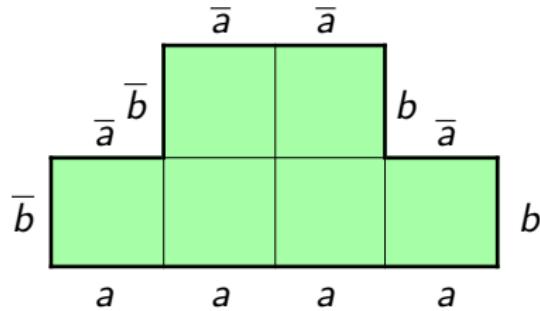
**Notation :**  
 $w \equiv w'$  notes that  $w$  and  $w'$  are conjugate.

There exist  $u, v \in \Sigma^*$   
 such that :  
 $w = uv$  and  $w' = vu$ .

# Freeman chain code

$$\Sigma = \{a, \bar{a}, b, \bar{b}\}$$

$a \rightarrow$	$b \uparrow$
$\bar{a} \leftarrow$	$\bar{b} \downarrow$



$$w \equiv a \ a \ a \ a \ b \ \bar{a} \ b \ \bar{a} \ \bar{a} \ \bar{b} \ \bar{a} \ \bar{b}$$

**Notation :**  
 $w \equiv w'$  notes that  $w$  and  $w'$  are conjugate.

There exist  $u, v \in \Sigma^*$   
such that :  
 $w = uv$  and  $w' = vu$ .

# Tilings

## Definition

*A tiling of the plane by a polyomino  $P$  is a set  $T$  of non-overlapping translated copies of  $P$  that covers all the plane.*

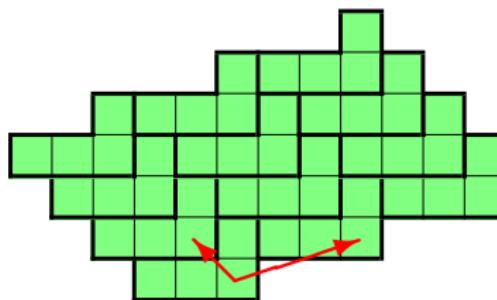
# Tilings

## Definition

*A tiling of the plane by a polyomino  $P$  is a set  $T$  of non-overlapping translated copies of  $P$  that covers all the plane.*

*Regular*

$$\exists u, v \in \mathbb{Z}^2, T = \{P_{iu+jv} | i, j \in \mathbb{Z}^2\}$$



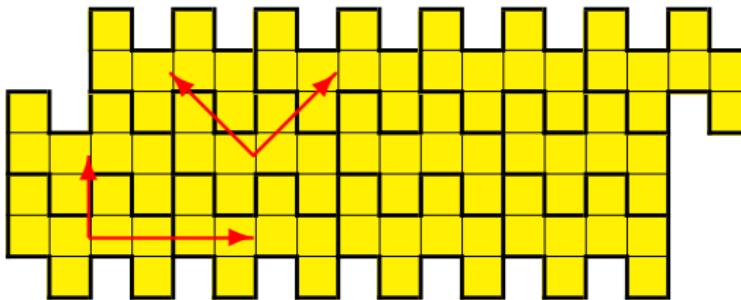
# Tilings

## Definition

*A tiling of the plane by a polyomino  $P$  is a set  $T$  of non-overlapping translated copies of  $P$  that covers all the plane.*

## Irregular

$$\nexists u, v \in \mathbb{Z}^2, T = \{P_{iu+jv} | i, j \in \mathbb{Z}^2\}$$



# The tiling problem

## Problem

*Given a word  $w \in \Sigma^*$  coding the border of a polyomino  $P$ , does  $P$  admits a tiling of the plane.*

# The tiling problem

## Problem

*Given a word  $w \in \Sigma^*$  coding the border of a polyomino  $P$ , does  $P$  admits a tiling of the plane.*

Complexity : let  $n$  be the length of  $w$ .

# The tiling problem

## Problem

*Given a word  $w \in \Sigma^*$  coding the border of a polyomino  $P$ , does  $P$  admits a tiling of the plane.*

Complexity : let  $n$  be the length of  $w$ .

Lower bound :  $\Omega(n)$

# The tiling problem

## Problem

*Given a word  $w \in \Sigma^*$  coding the border of a polyomino  $P$ , does  $P$  admits a tiling of the plane.*

Complexity : let  $n$  be the length of  $w$ .

Lower bound :  $\Omega(n)$

Upper bound : ???

# Wijshof and Van Leeuven

1984 - Wijshof and Van Leeuven

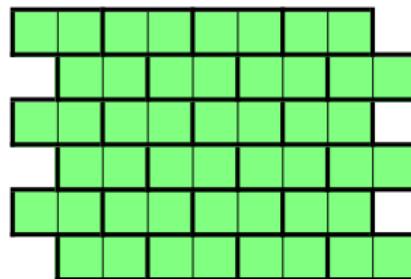
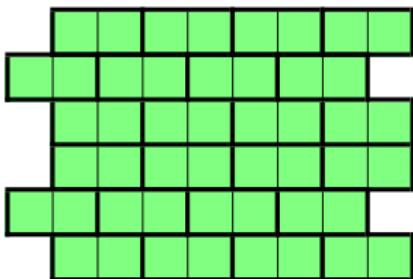
# Wijshof and Van Leeuven

1984 - Wijshof and Van Leeuven

Irregular

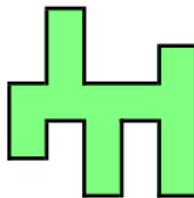
⇒

Regular



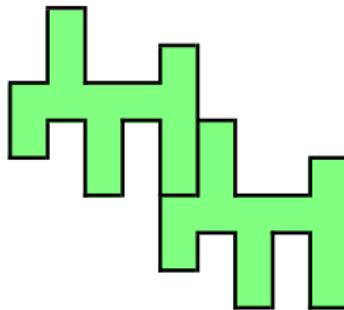
# Wijshof and Van Leeuven

1984 - Wijshof and Van Leeuven



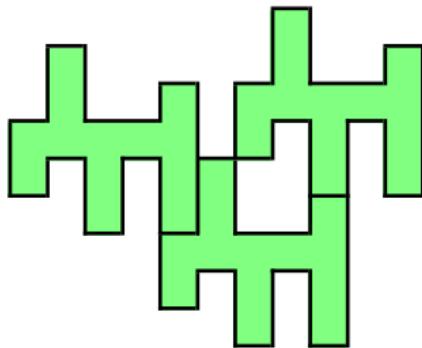
# Wijshof and Van Leeuven

1984 - Wijshof and Van Leeuven



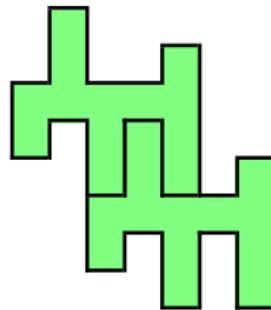
# Wijshof and Van Leeuven

1984 - Wijshof and Van Leeuven



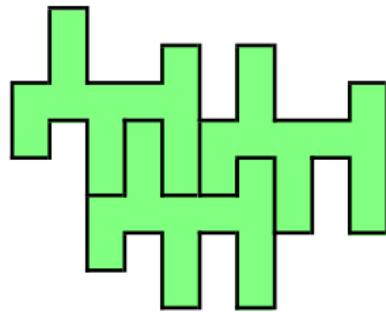
# Wijshof and Van Leeuven

1984 - Wijshof and Van Leeuven



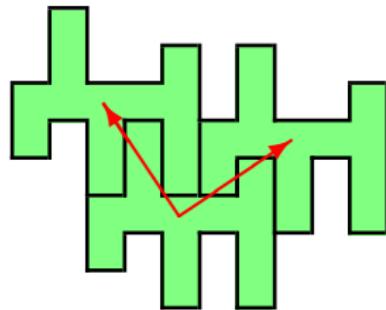
# Wijshof and Van Leeuven

1984 - Wijshof and Van Leeuven



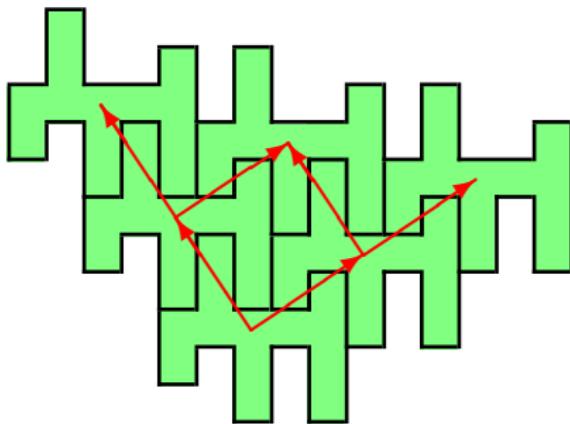
# Wijshof and Van Leeuven

1984 - Wijshof and Van Leeuven



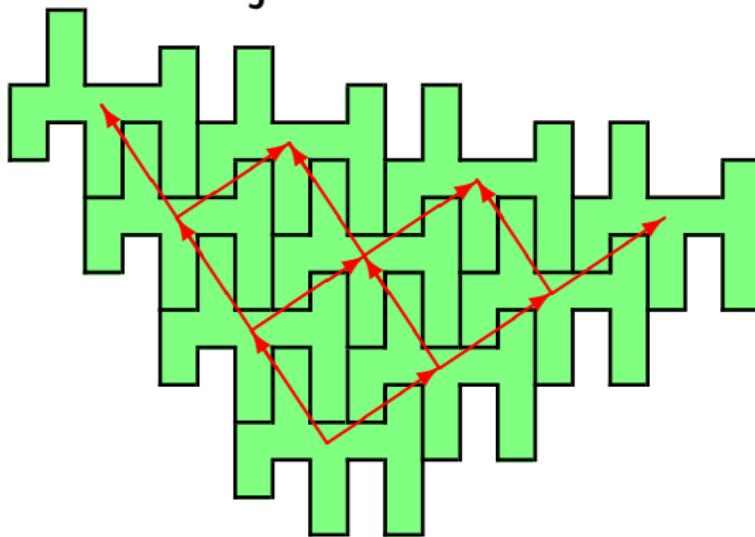
# Wijshof and Van Leeuven

1984 - Wijshof and Van Leeuven



# Wijshof and Van Leeuven

1984 - Wijshof and Van Leeuven



# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ .

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}} = - \circ \sim$

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}} = - \circ \sim$

$$X = a \ a \ b \ a \ \bar{b} \ a \ b$$

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}}$  = — ○ ~

$X = a\ a\ b\ a\ \bar{b}\ a\ b\ \bullet$

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}}$  = — ○ ~

$X = a\ a\ b\ a\ \bar{b}\ a\ b$       ●—

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}}$    =    $-$     $\circ$     $\sim$

$X = a a b a \bar{b} a b$    

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}}$  = — ○ ~

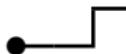
$X = a\ a\ b\ a\ \bar{b}\ a\ b$       

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}}$  = — ○ ~

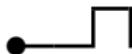
$X = a a b a \bar{b} a b$       

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}}$  = — ○ ~

$X = a a b a \bar{b} a b$       

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}}$  = — ○ ~

$X = a a b a \bar{b} a b$       

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}}$  = — ○ ~

$X = a a b a \bar{b} a b$       

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}} = \circ \sim$

$$X = a a b a \bar{b} a b$$



$$\hat{X} = \bar{b} \bar{a} b \bar{a} \bar{b} \bar{a} \bar{a}$$

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}} = \_ \circ \sim$

$X = a a b a \bar{b} a b$         
 $\hat{X} = \bar{b} \bar{a} b \bar{a} \bar{b} \bar{a} \bar{a}$       •

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}} = \sim$

$$X = a a b a \bar{b} a b$$



$$\hat{X} = \bar{b} \bar{a} b \bar{a} \bar{b} \bar{a} \bar{a}$$



# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}} = \sim$

$X = a a b a \bar{b} a b$         
 $\hat{X} = \bar{b} \bar{a} b \bar{a} \bar{b} \bar{a} \bar{a}$       

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ .

$\wedge = - \circ \sim$

$$X = a a b a \bar{b} a b \quad \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \square \end{array}$$
$$\hat{X} = \bar{b} \bar{a} b \bar{a} \bar{b} \bar{a} \bar{a} \quad \begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \square \end{array}$$

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ .

$\wedge = - \circ \sim$

$X = a a b a \bar{b} a b$         
 $\hat{X} = \bar{b} \bar{a} b \bar{a} \bar{b} \bar{a} \bar{a}$       

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ .

$\wedge = - \circ \sim$

$X = a a b a \bar{b} a b$         
 $\hat{X} = \bar{b} \bar{a} b \bar{a} \bar{b} \bar{a} \bar{a}$       

# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ .

$\widehat{\phantom{x}} = \sim$

$$X = a a b a \bar{b} a b$$



$$\hat{X} = \bar{b} \bar{a} b \bar{a} \bar{b} \bar{a} \bar{a}$$



# Beauquier and Nivat

## 1991 - Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization* : A polyomino  $P$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ .

$\wedge = - \circ \sim$

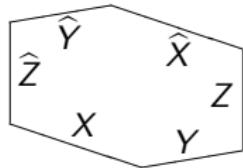
$X = a a b a \bar{b} a b$         
 $\hat{X} = \bar{b} \bar{a} b \bar{a} \bar{b} \bar{a} \bar{a}$       

# Beauquier and Nivat

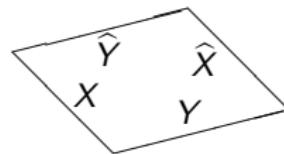
## 1991 -Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization :* A polyomino  $p$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ .

Pseudo-hexagons



Pseudo-squares

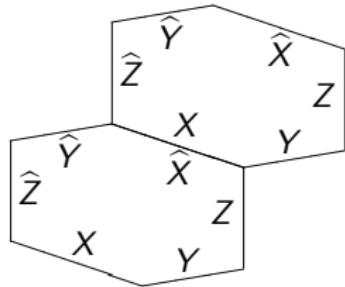


# Beauquier and Nivat

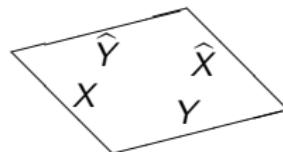
## 1991 -Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization :* A polyomino  $p$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ .

Pseudo-hexagons



Pseudo-squares

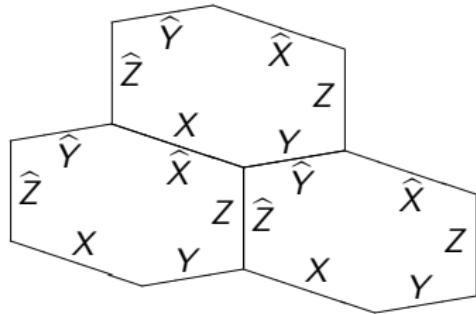


# Beauquier and Nivat

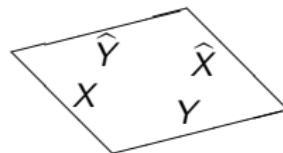
## 1991 -Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization :* A polyomino  $p$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ .

Pseudo-hexagons



Pseudo-squares

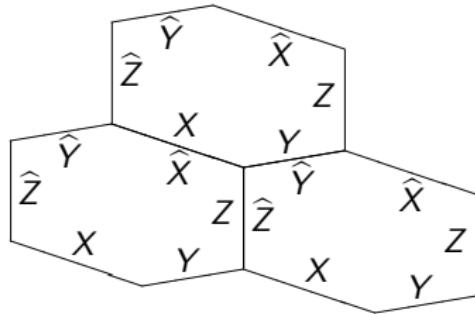


# Beauquier and Nivat

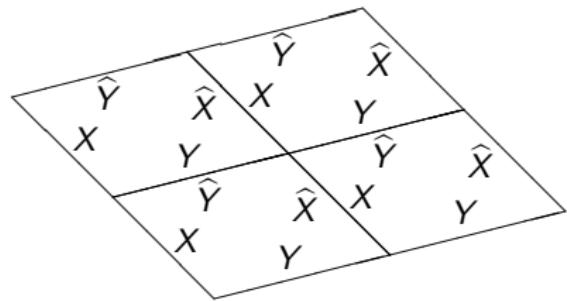
## 1991 -Beauquier and Nivat

*Characterization :* A polyomino  $p$  tiles the plane if and only if there exists  $X, Y, Z \in \Sigma^*$  such that  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ .

Pseudo-hexagons



Pseudo-squares



# Gambini and Vuillon

2003 - Gambini and Vuillon

$\mathcal{O}(n^2)$  algorithm using Beauquier-Nivat's characterization.

# Admissible factors

## Definition

Let  $A$  be a factor of the word  $w$  coding a polyomino  $p$ .  $A$  is admissible if

- $w \equiv Ax\hat{A}y$ , for  $x, y$  such that  $|x| = |y|$ .
- $A$  is saturated, that is,  $\text{first}(x) \neq \overline{\text{last}(x)}$  and  $\text{first}(y) \neq \overline{\text{last}(y)}$ .

# Admissible factors

## Proposition

*Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the set of all admissible factors overlapping a position  $\alpha$  in  $w$  and  $\widehat{\mathcal{A}}$  be the set of their respective homologue factors. Then, there is at least one position in  $w$  that is not covered by any element of  $\mathcal{A} \cup \widehat{\mathcal{A}}$ .*

# Admissible factors

## Proposition

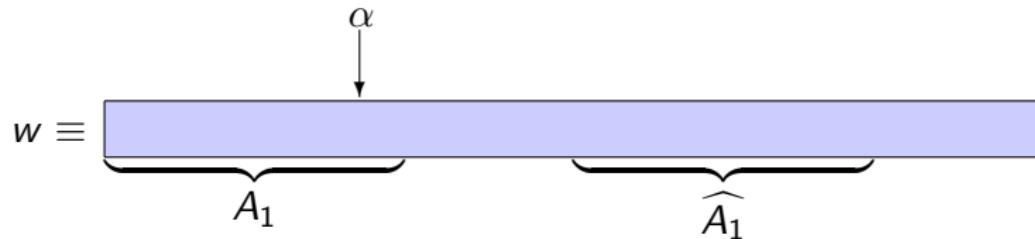
Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the set of all admissible factors overlapping a position  $\alpha$  in  $w$  and  $\widehat{\mathcal{A}}$  be the set of their respective homologue factors. Then, there is at least one position in  $w$  that is not covered by any element of  $\mathcal{A} \cup \widehat{\mathcal{A}}$ .



# Admissible factors

## Proposition

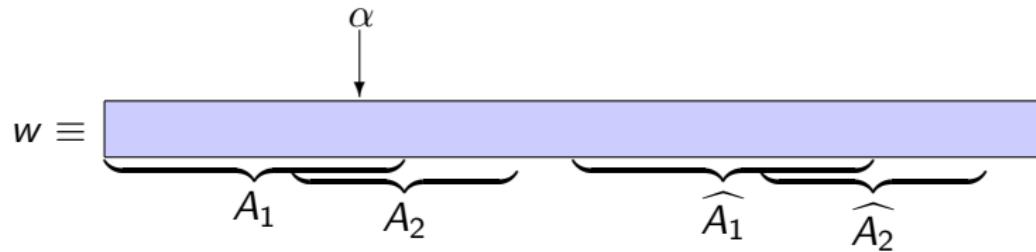
Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the set of all admissible factors overlapping a position  $\alpha$  in  $w$  and  $\widehat{\mathcal{A}}$  be the set of their respective homologue factors. Then, there is at least one position in  $w$  that is not covered by any element of  $\mathcal{A} \cup \widehat{\mathcal{A}}$ .



# Admissible factors

## Proposition

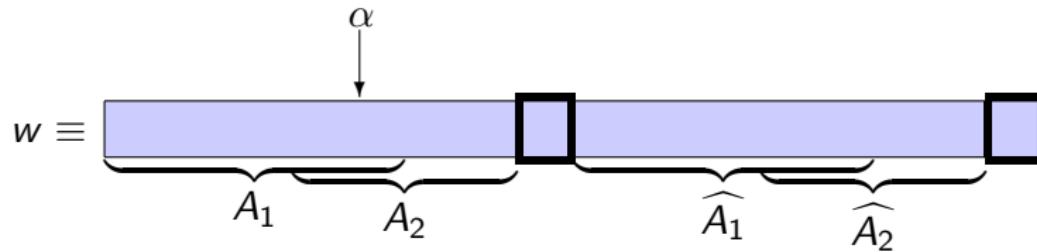
Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the set of all admissible factors overlapping a position  $\alpha$  in  $w$  and  $\widehat{\mathcal{A}}$  be the set of their respective homologue factors. Then, there is at least one position in  $w$  that is not covered by any element of  $\mathcal{A} \cup \widehat{\mathcal{A}}$ .



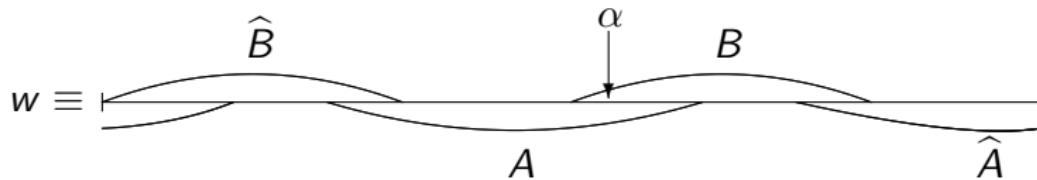
# Admissible factors

## Proposition

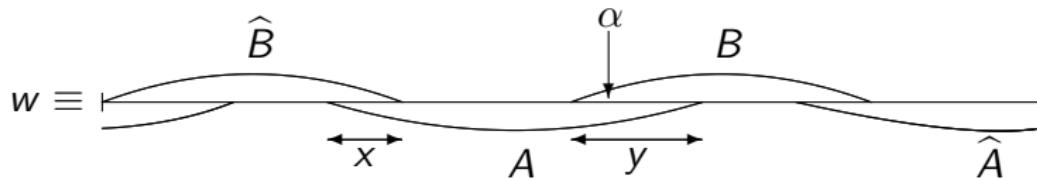
Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the set of all admissible factors overlapping a position  $\alpha$  in  $w$  and  $\widehat{\mathcal{A}}$  be the set of their respective homologue factors. Then, there is at least one position in  $w$  that is not covered by any element of  $\mathcal{A} \cup \widehat{\mathcal{A}}$ .



# Admissible factors

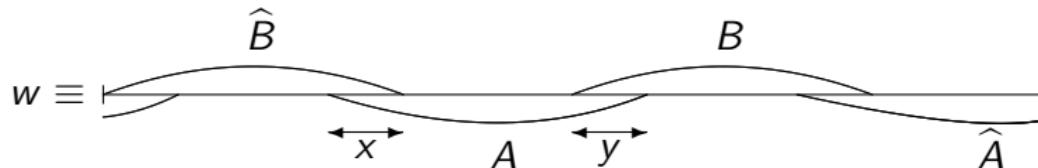


# Admissible factors



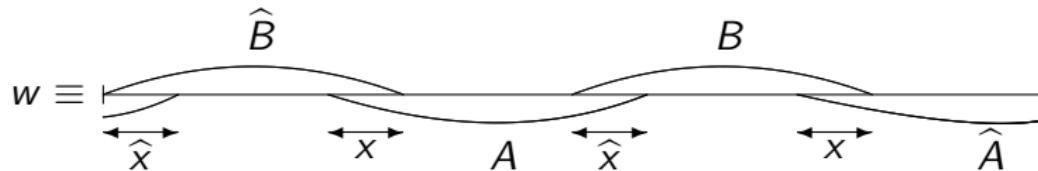
# Admissible factors

1.  $|x| = |y|$



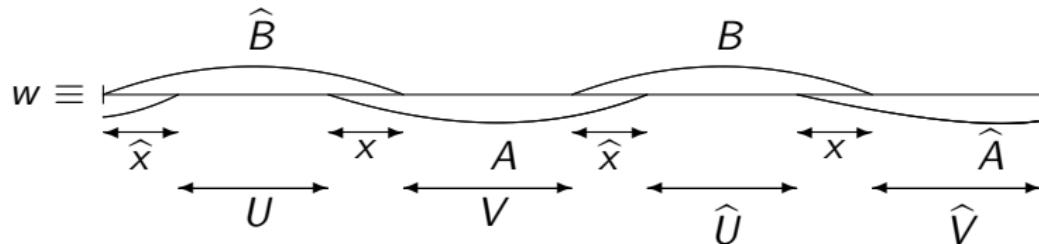
# Admissible factors

1.  $|x| = |y|$



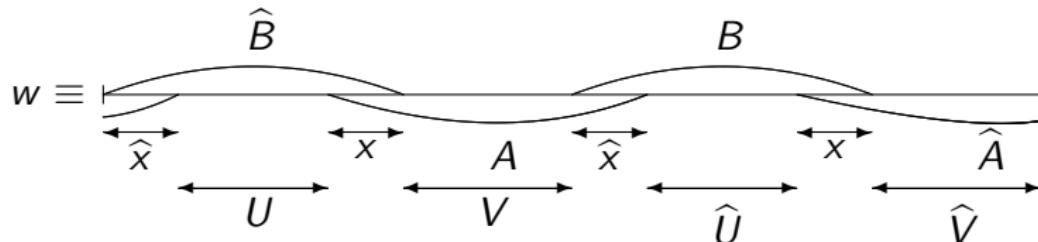
# Admissible factors

1.  $|x| = |y|$



# Admissible factors

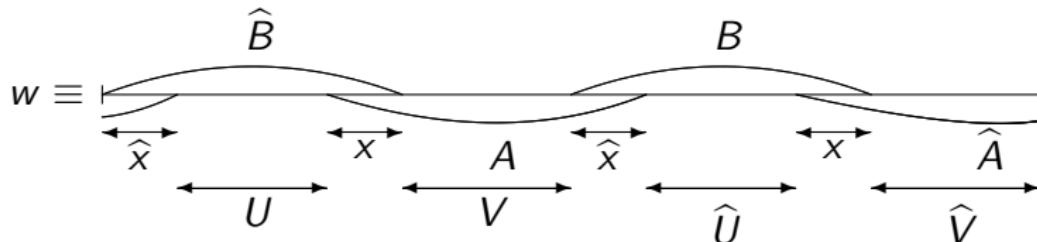
1.  $|x| = |y|$



$$w \equiv \hat{x} \ U \times V \ \hat{x} \ \hat{U} \times \hat{V}.$$

# Admissible factors

$$1. |x| = |y|$$



$$w \equiv \hat{x} \ U \ x \ V \ \hat{x} \ \hat{U} \ x \ \hat{V}.$$

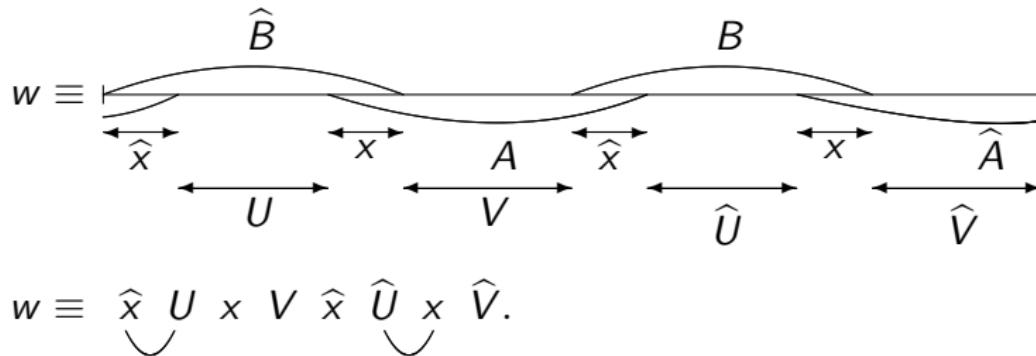
## Lemma

*In a non-intersecting closed path on a square lattice,*

$$\#(\text{left turns}) - \#(\text{right turns}) = 4.$$

# Admissible factors

$$1. |x| = |y|$$



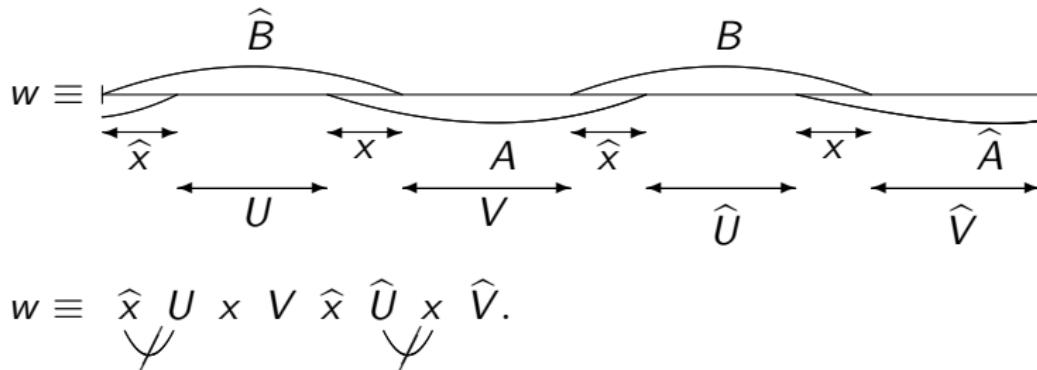
## Lemma

In a non-intersecting closed path on a square lattice,

$$\#(\text{left turns}) - \#(\text{right turns}) = 4.$$

# Admissible factors

$$1. |x| = |y|$$



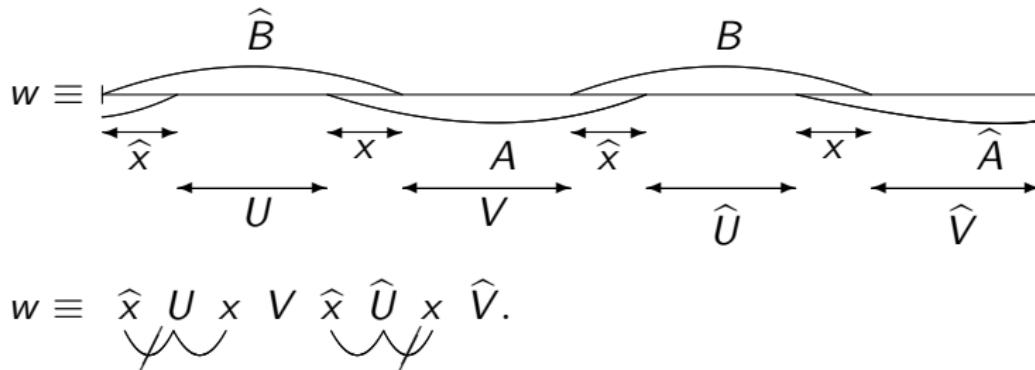
## Lemma

*In a non-intersecting closed path on a square lattice,*

$$\#(\text{left turns}) - \#(\text{right turns}) = 4.$$

# Admissible factors

$$1. |x| = |y|$$



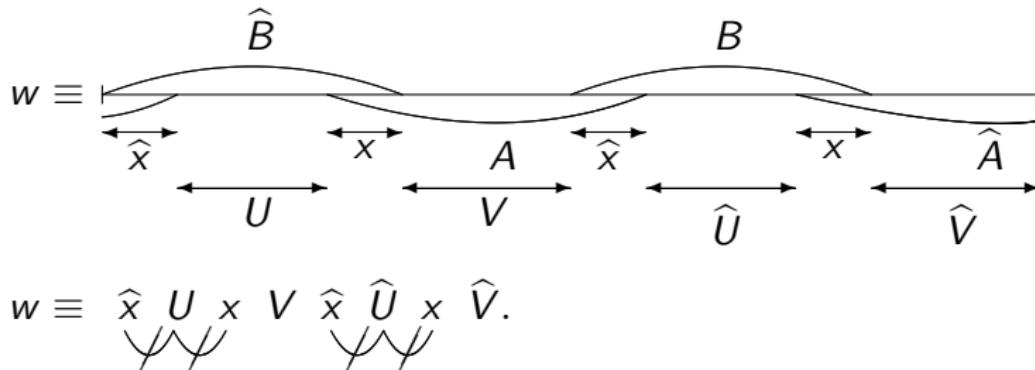
## Lemma

*In a non-intersecting closed path on a square lattice,*

$$\#(\text{left turns}) - \#(\text{right turns}) = 4.$$

# Admissible factors

$$1. |x| = |y|$$



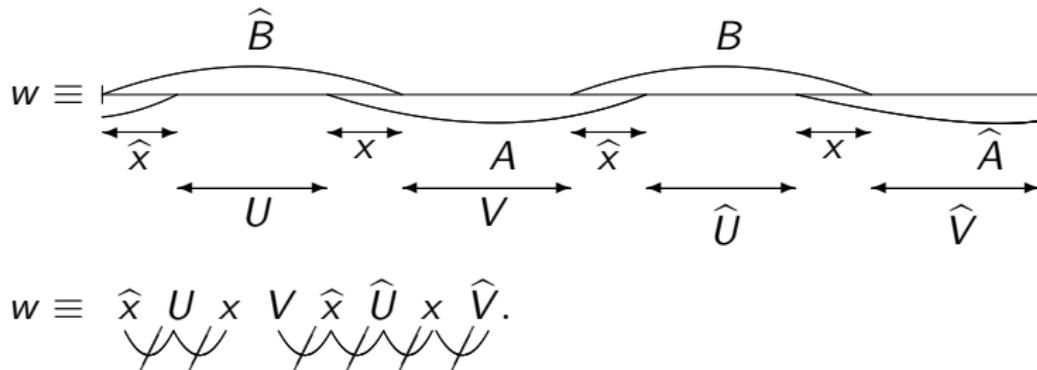
## Lemma

In a non-intersecting closed path on a square lattice,

$$\#(\text{left turns}) - \#(\text{right turns}) = 4.$$

# Admissible factors

$$1. |x| = |y|$$



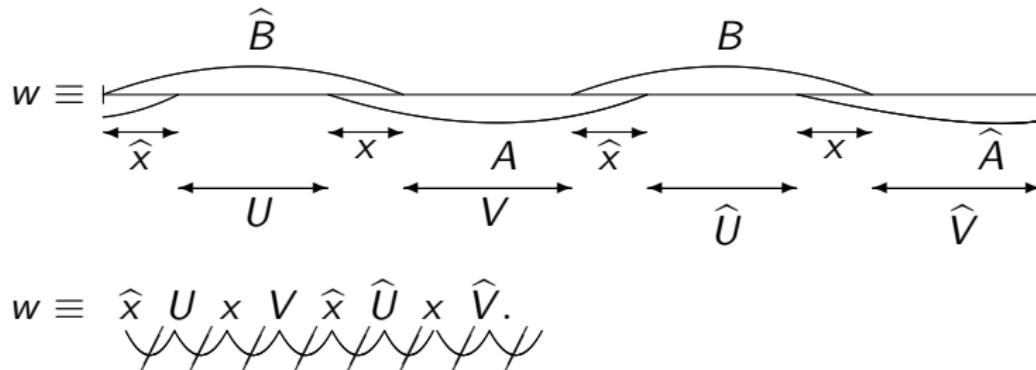
## Lemma

*In a non-intersecting closed path on a square lattice,*

$$\#(\text{left turns}) - \#(\text{right turns}) = 4.$$

# Admissible factors

$$1. |x| = |y|$$



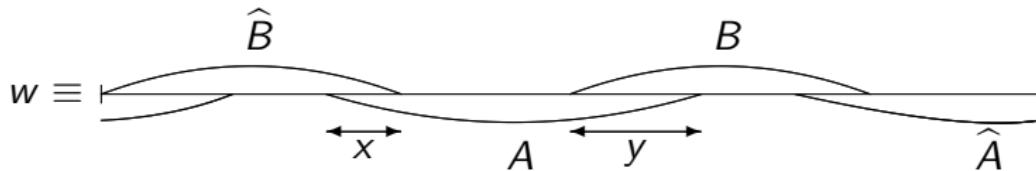
## Lemma

*In a non-intersecting closed path on a square lattice,*

$$\#(\text{left turns}) - \#(\text{right turns}) = 4.$$

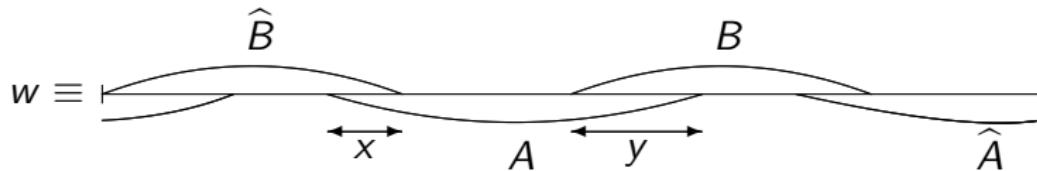
# Admissible factors

2.  $|x| \neq |y|$ .



# Admissible factors

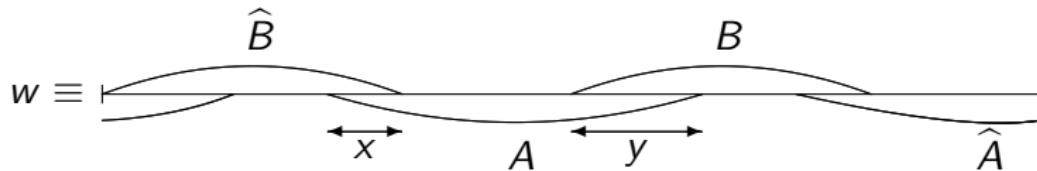
2.  $|x| \neq |y|$ .



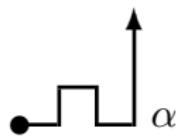
$w \equiv \alpha \ \beta \ \gamma$ , where  $\vec{\beta} = \vec{0}$ .

# Admissible factors

2.  $|x| \neq |y|$ .

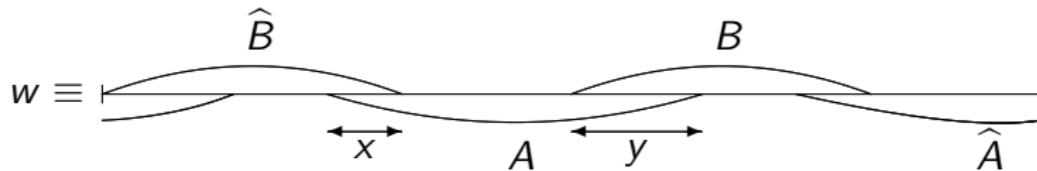


$w \equiv \alpha \ \beta \ \gamma$ , where  $\vec{\beta} = \vec{0}$ .

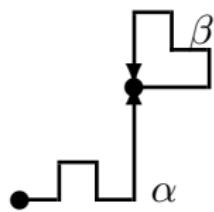


# Admissible factors

2.  $|x| \neq |y|$ .

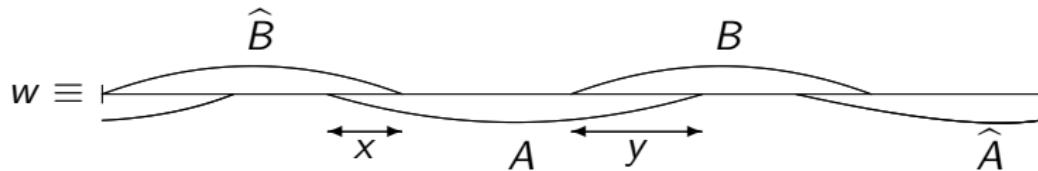


$w \equiv \alpha \ \beta \ \gamma$ , where  $\vec{\beta} = \vec{0}$ .

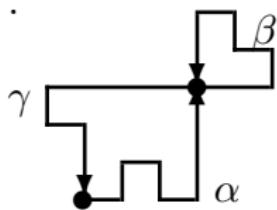


# Admissible factors

2.  $|x| \neq |y|$ .

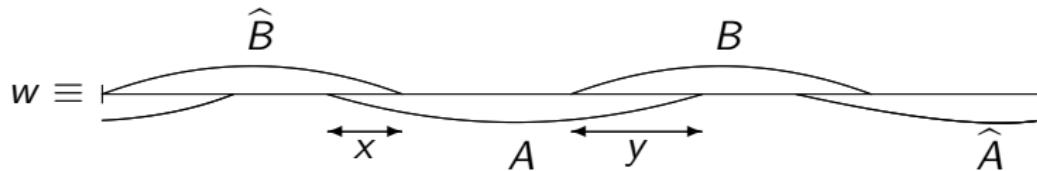


$w \equiv \alpha \ \beta \ \gamma$ , where  $\vec{\beta} = \vec{0}$ .

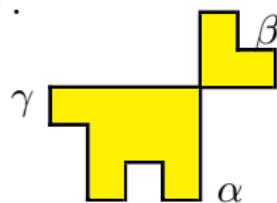


# Admissible factors

2.  $|x| \neq |y|$ .

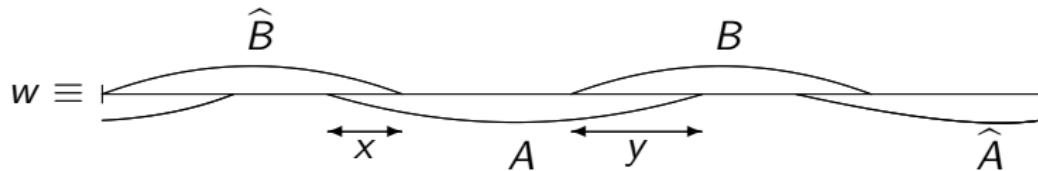


$w \equiv \alpha \beta \gamma$ , where  $\vec{\beta} = \vec{0}$ .

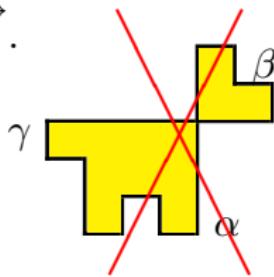


# Admissible factors

2.  $|x| \neq |y|$ .



$w \equiv \alpha \beta \gamma$ , where  $\vec{\beta} = \vec{0}$ .



# Admissible factors

## Lemma

*Let  $w$  a word coding a polyomino  $p$  with Beauquier-Nivat's factorization  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ . Then,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are admissible.*

# Admissible factors

## Lemma

Let  $w$  a word coding a polyomino  $p$  with Beauquier-Nivat's factorization  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ . Then,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are admissible.

- $w \equiv Ax\widehat{A}y$ , for  $x, y$  such that  $|x| = |y|$ .
- $A$  is *saturated*, that is,  $\text{first}(x) \neq \overline{\text{last}(x)}$  and  $\text{first}(y) \neq \overline{\text{last}(y)}$ .

# Admissible factors

## Lemma

Let  $w$  a word coding a polyomino  $p$  with Beauquier-Nivat's factorization  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ . Then,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are admissible.

- $w \equiv Ax\widehat{A}y$ , for  $x, y$  such that  $|x| = |y|$ .  
Direct consequence of the fact that  $|u| = |\widehat{u}|$  for all  $u \in \Sigma^*$ .
- $A$  is *saturated*, that is,  $\text{first}(x) \neq \overline{\text{last}(x)}$  and  $\text{first}(y) \neq \overline{\text{last}(y)}$ .

# Admissible factors

## Lemma

Let  $w$  a word coding a polyomino  $p$  with Beauquier-Nivat's factorization  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ . Then,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are admissible.

- $w \equiv Ax\widehat{A}y$ , for  $x, y$  such that  $|x| = |y|$ .  
Direct consequence of the fact that  $|u| = |\widehat{u}|$  for all  $u \in \Sigma^*$ .
- $A$  is *saturated*, that is,  $\text{first}(x) \neq \overline{\text{last}(x)}$  and  $\text{first}(y) \neq \overline{\text{last}(y)}$ .

By contradiction, assume that  $X$  is not saturated, then  $\text{first}(YZ) = \overline{\text{last}(YZ)}$ .

# Admissible factors

## Lemma

Let  $w$  a word coding a polyomino  $p$  with Beauquier-Nivat's factorization  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ . Then,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are admissible.

- $w \equiv Ax\widehat{A}y$ , for  $x, y$  such that  $|x| = |y|$ .  
Direct consequence of the fact that  $|u| = |\widehat{u}|$  for all  $u \in \Sigma^*$ .
- $A$  is *saturated*, that is,  $\text{first}(x) \neq \overline{\text{last}(x)}$  and  $\text{first}(y) \neq \overline{\text{last}(y)}$ .

By contradiction, assume that  $X$  is not saturated, then  $\text{first}(YZ) = \overline{\text{last}(YZ)}$ .

$$YZ = \alpha Y' Z' \overline{\alpha}$$

# Admissible factors

## Lemma

Let  $w$  a word coding a polyomino  $p$  with Beauquier-Nivat's factorization  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ . Then,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are admissible.

- $w \equiv Ax\widehat{A}y$ , for  $x, y$  such that  $|x| = |y|$ .  
Direct consequence of the fact that  $|u| = |\widehat{u}|$  for all  $u \in \Sigma^*$ .
- $A$  is *saturated*, that is,  $\text{first}(x) \neq \overline{\text{last}(x)}$  and  $\text{first}(y) \neq \overline{\text{last}(y)}$ .

By contradiction, assume that  $X$  is not saturated, then  $\text{first}(YZ) = \overline{\text{last}(YZ)}$ .

$$YZ = \alpha Y' Z' \overline{\alpha} \implies \widehat{Y}\widehat{Z} = \widehat{\alpha} \widehat{Y'} \widehat{Z'} \overline{\alpha} = \widehat{Y'} \overline{\alpha} \alpha \widehat{Z'}.$$

# Admissible factors

## Lemma

Let  $w$  a word coding a polyomino  $p$  with Beauquier-Nivat's factorization  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ . Then,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are admissible.

- $w \equiv Ax\widehat{A}y$ , for  $x, y$  such that  $|x| = |y|$ .  
Direct consequence of the fact that  $|u| = |\widehat{u}|$  for all  $u \in \Sigma^*$ .
- $A$  is *saturated*, that is,  $\text{first}(x) \neq \overline{\text{last}(x)}$  and  $\text{first}(y) \neq \overline{\text{last}(y)}$ .

$$w \equiv XY\widehat{X}\widehat{Y} \text{ with } Y = \alpha Y' \overline{\alpha}.$$

# Admissible factors

## Lemma

Let  $w$  a word coding a polyomino  $p$  with Beauquier-Nivat's factorization  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ . Then,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are admissible.

- $w \equiv Ax\widehat{A}y$ , for  $x, y$  such that  $|x| = |y|$ .  
Direct consequence of the fact that  $|u| = |\widehat{u}|$  for all  $u \in \Sigma^*$ .
- $A$  is *saturated*, that is,  $\text{first}(x) \neq \overline{\text{last}(x)}$  and  $\text{first}(y) \neq \overline{\text{last}(y)}$ .

$$w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y} \text{ with } Y = \alpha Y' \overline{\alpha}.$$



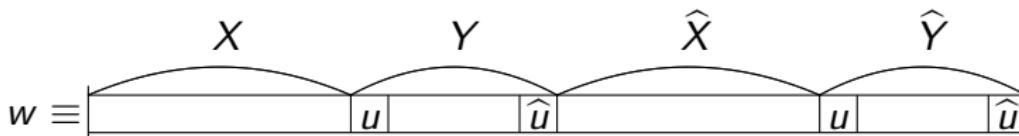
# Admissible factors

## Lemma

Let  $w$  a word coding a polyomino  $p$  with Beauquier-Nivat's factorization  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ . Then,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are admissible.

- $w \equiv Ax\widehat{A}y$ , for  $x, y$  such that  $|x| = |y|$ .  
Direct consequence of the fact that  $|u| = |\widehat{u}|$  for all  $u \in \Sigma^*$ .
- $A$  is *saturated*, that is,  $\text{first}(x) \neq \overline{\text{last}(x)}$  and  $\text{first}(y) \neq \overline{\text{last}(y)}$ .

$$w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y} \text{ with } Y = \alpha Y' \overline{\alpha}.$$



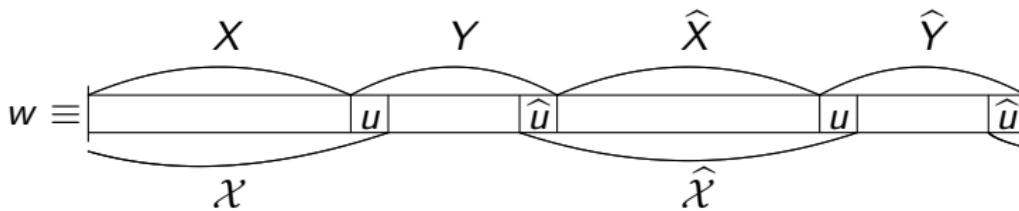
# Admissible factors

## Lemma

Let  $w$  a word coding a polyomino  $p$  with Beauquier-Nivat's factorization  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ . Then,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are admissible.

- $w \equiv Ax\widehat{A}y$ , for  $x, y$  such that  $|x| = |y|$ .  
Direct consequence of the fact that  $|u| = |\widehat{u}|$  for all  $u \in \Sigma^*$ .
- $A$  is *saturated*, that is,  $\text{first}(x) \neq \overline{\text{last}(x)}$  and  $\text{first}(y) \neq \overline{\text{last}(y)}$ .

$$w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y} \text{ with } Y = \alpha Y' \overline{\alpha}.$$



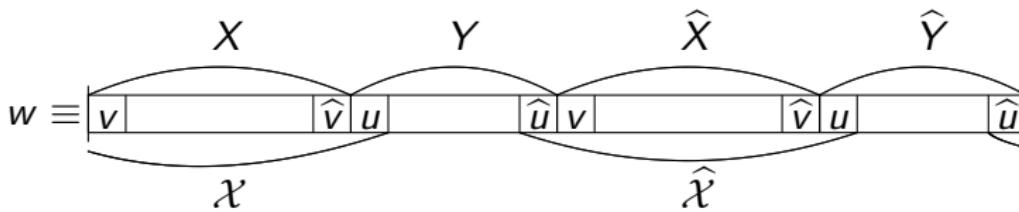
# Admissible factors

## Lemma

Let  $w$  a word coding a polyomino  $p$  with Beauquier-Nivat's factorization  $w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y}\widehat{Z}$ . Then,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are admissible.

- $w \equiv Ax\widehat{A}y$ , for  $x, y$  such that  $|x| = |y|$ .  
Direct consequence of the fact that  $|u| = |\widehat{u}|$  for all  $u \in \Sigma^*$ .
- $A$  is *saturated*, that is,  $\text{first}(x) \neq \overline{\text{last}(x)}$  and  $\text{first}(y) \neq \overline{\text{last}(y)}$ .

$$w \equiv XYZ\widehat{X}\widehat{Y} \text{ with } Y = \alpha Y' \overline{\alpha}.$$



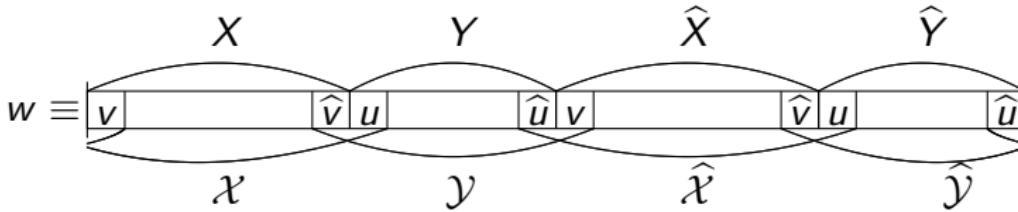
## Admissible factors

## Lemma

Let  $w$  a word coding a polyomino  $p$  with Beauquier-Nivat's factorization  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ . Then,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are admissible.

- $w \equiv Ax\widehat{A}y$ , for  $x, y$  such that  $|x| = |y|$ .  
Direct consequence of the fact that  $|u| = |\widehat{u}|$  for all  $u \in \Sigma^*$ .
  - $A$  is *saturated*, that is,  $\text{first}(x) \neq \overline{\text{last}(x)}$  and  $\text{first}(y) \neq \overline{\text{last}(y)}$ .

$w \equiv XY\bar{X}\bar{Y}$  with  $Y \equiv \alpha Y' \bar{\alpha}$ .



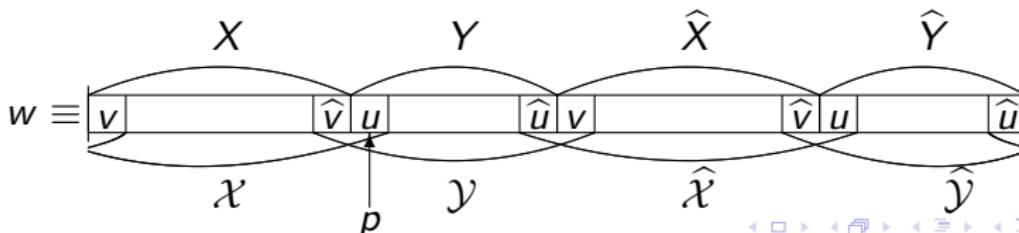
## Admissible factors

## Lemma

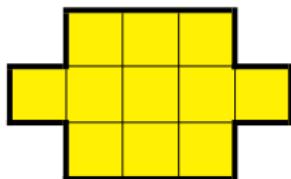
Let  $w$  a word coding a polyomino  $p$  with Beauquier-Nivat's factorization  $w \equiv XYZ\hat{X}\hat{Y}\hat{Z}$ . Then,  $X$ ,  $Y$  and  $Z$  are admissible.

- $w \equiv Ax\widehat{A}y$ , for  $x, y$  such that  $|x| = |y|$ .  
Direct consequence of the fact that  $|u| = |\widehat{u}|$  for all  $u \in \Sigma^*$ .
  - $A$  is *saturated*, that is,  $\text{first}(x) \neq \overline{\text{last}(x)}$  and  $\text{first}(y) \neq \overline{\text{last}(y)}$ .

$$w \equiv XY\widehat{X}\widehat{Y} \text{ with } Y = \alpha Y' \overline{\alpha}.$$

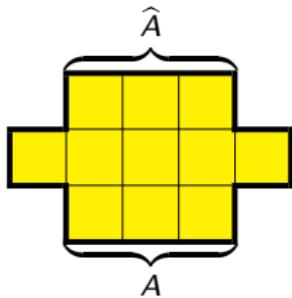


# Admissible factors

$$w \equiv a a a b a b \bar{a} b \bar{a} \bar{a} \bar{a} \bar{b} \bar{a} \bar{b} a \bar{b}$$


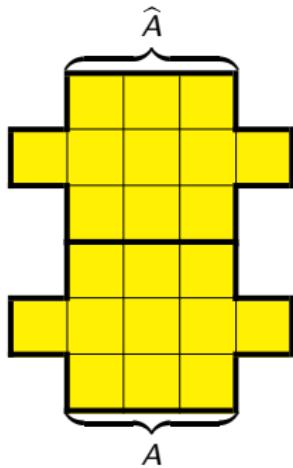
# Admissible factors

$$w \equiv \underbrace{aaa}_{A} \underbrace{bab\bar{a}b}_{x} \underbrace{\bar{a}\bar{a}\bar{a}}_{\hat{A}} \underbrace{\bar{b}\bar{a}\bar{b}}_{y} \underbrace{a\bar{b}}$$



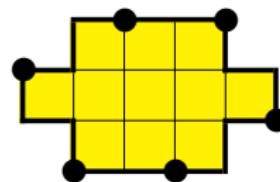
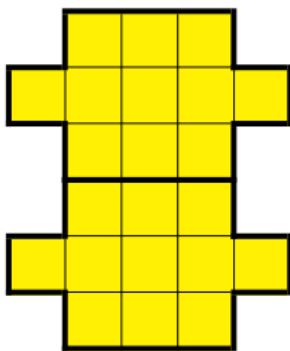
# Admissible factors

$$w \equiv \underbrace{aaa}_{A} \underbrace{bab\bar{a}b}_{x} \underbrace{\bar{a}\bar{a}\bar{a}}_{\hat{A}} \underbrace{\bar{b}\bar{a}\bar{b}}_{y} \underbrace{a\bar{b}}$$



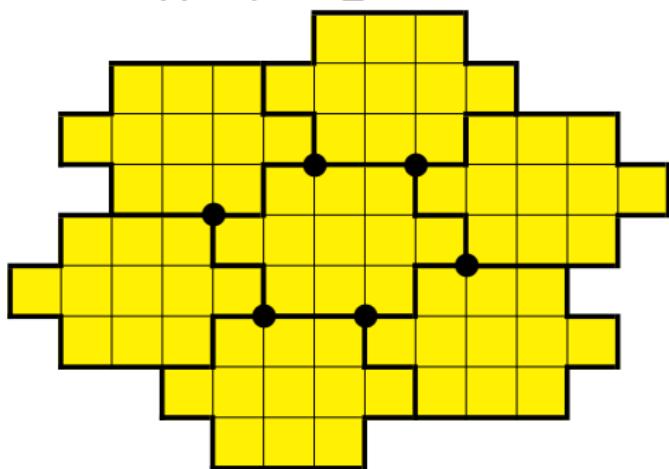
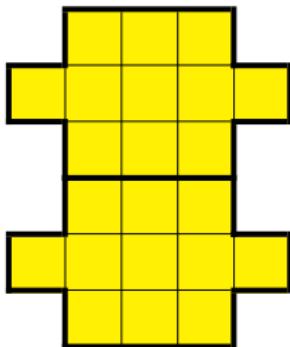
# Admissible factors

$$w \equiv \underbrace{a a a}_{X} \underbrace{b a}_{Y} \underbrace{b \bar{a}}_{Z} b \bar{a} \bar{a} \bar{a} \underbrace{\bar{b} \bar{a}}_{\hat{X}} \underbrace{\bar{b} \bar{a}}_{\hat{Y}} \underbrace{\bar{b} a \bar{b}}_{\hat{Z}}$$



# Admissible factors

$$w \equiv \underbrace{a a a}_{X} \underbrace{b a}_{Y} \underbrace{b \bar{a} b}_{Z} \underbrace{\bar{a} \bar{a} \bar{a}}_{\hat{X}} \underbrace{\bar{b} \bar{a} \bar{b}}_{\hat{Y}} \underbrace{\bar{b} a \bar{b}}_{\hat{Z}}$$



# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

*Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.*

## Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.

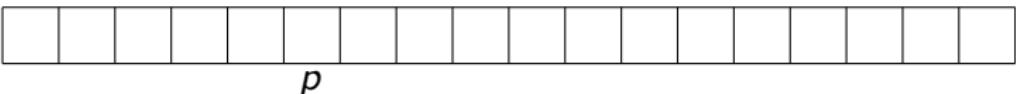
If  $w \equiv A \times \widehat{A} y$  then  $\widehat{w} \equiv \widehat{y} A \widehat{x} \widehat{A}$ .

# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

*Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.*

If  $w \equiv A x \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

$w \equiv$  

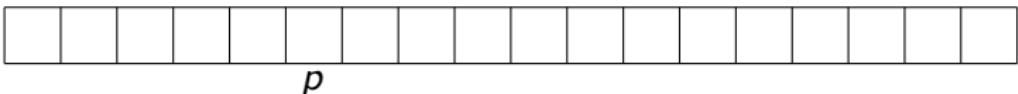
$\hat{w} \equiv$  

# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

*Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.*

If  $w \equiv A x \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

$w \equiv$  

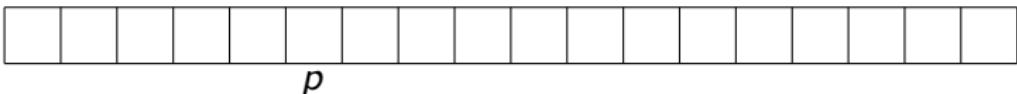
$\hat{w} \equiv$  

# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

*Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.*

If  $w \equiv A x \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

$w \equiv$  

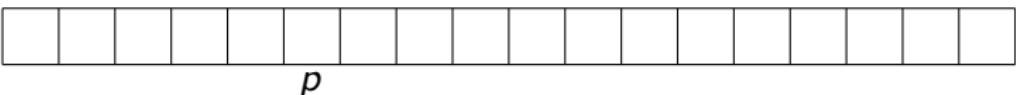
$\hat{w} \equiv$  

# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

*Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.*

If  $w \equiv A x \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

$w \equiv$  

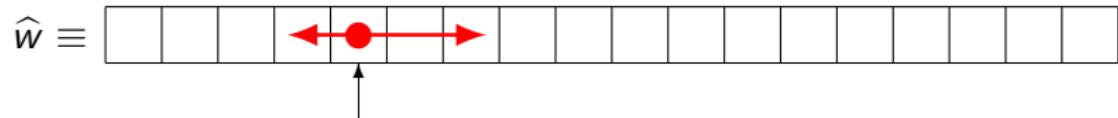
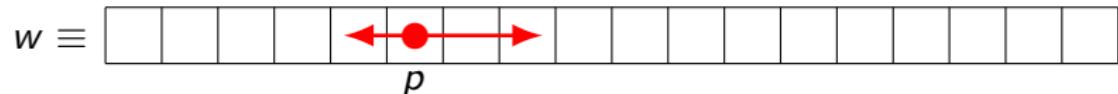
$\hat{w} \equiv$  

# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.

If  $w \equiv A \times \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

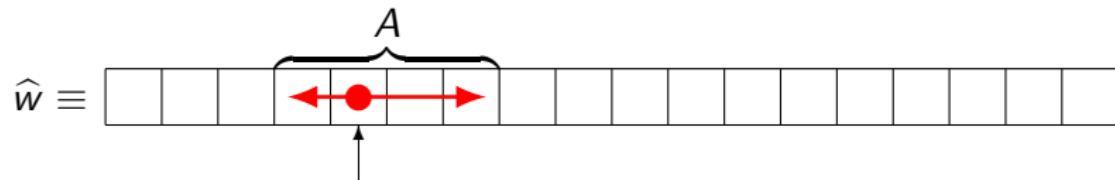
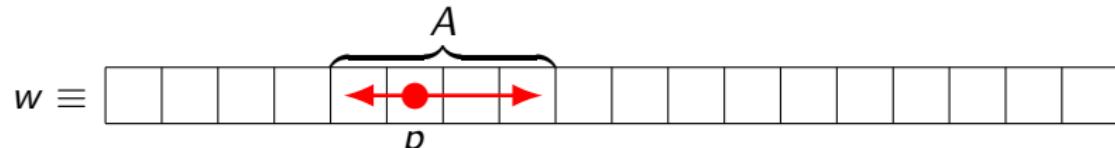


# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.

If  $w \equiv A \times \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{\hat{A}}$ .

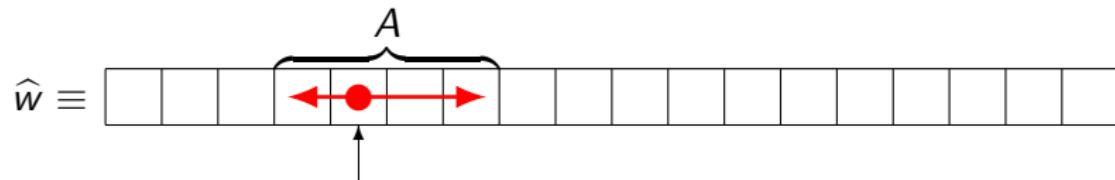
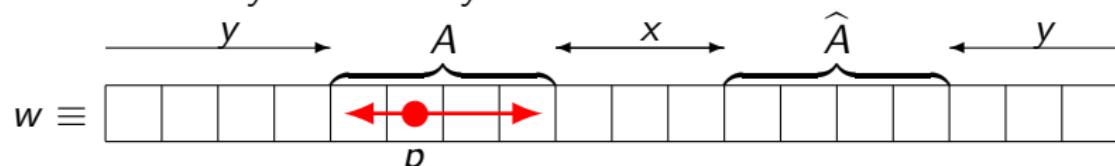


# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.

If  $w \equiv A \times \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{\hat{A}}$ .

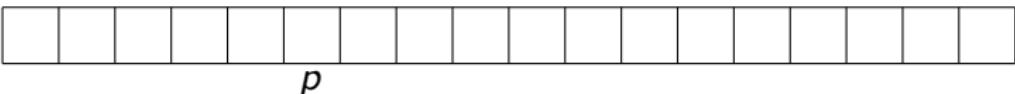


# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.

If  $w \equiv A \times \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

$w \equiv$  

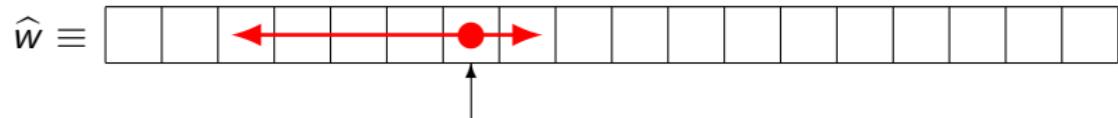
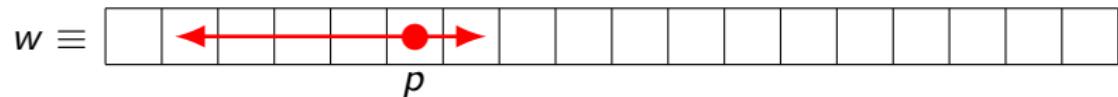
$\hat{w} \equiv$  

## Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.

If  $w \equiv A \times \widehat{A} y$  then  $\widehat{w} \equiv \widehat{y} A \widehat{x} \widehat{A}$ .

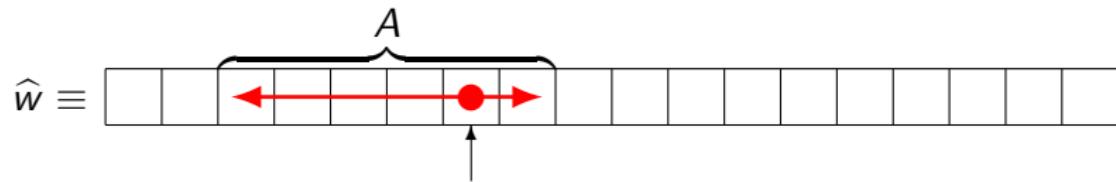
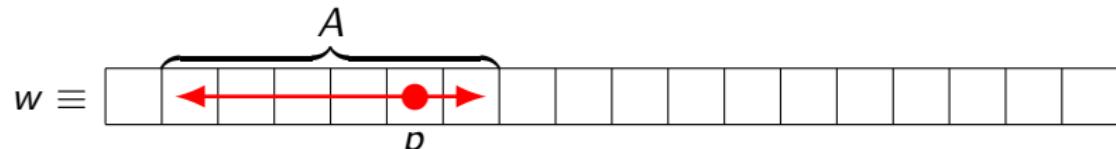


# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.

If  $w \equiv A \times \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{\hat{A}}$ .

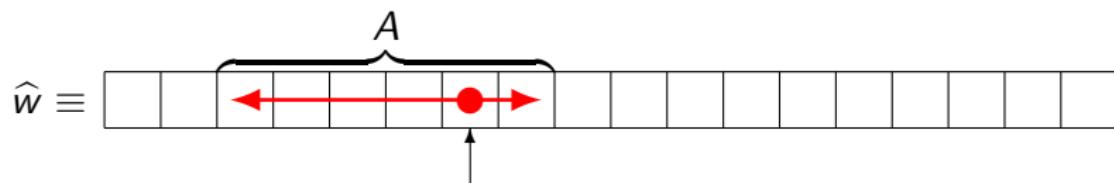
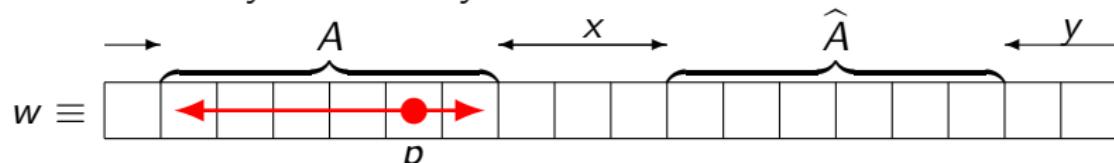


## Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.

If  $w \equiv A \times \widehat{A}$   $y$  then  $\widehat{w} \equiv \widehat{y} A \widehat{x} \widehat{A}$ .



# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

*Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.*

If  $w \equiv A \times \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

$w \equiv$  

$\hat{w} \equiv$  

# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

*Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.*

If  $w \equiv A x \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

$w \equiv$  

$\hat{w} \equiv$  

# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

*Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.*

If  $w \equiv A \times \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

$w \equiv$  

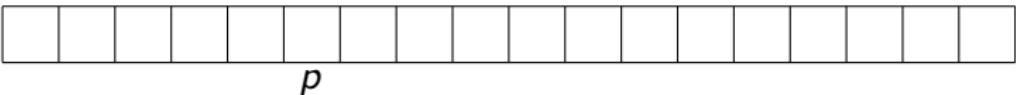
$\hat{w} \equiv$  

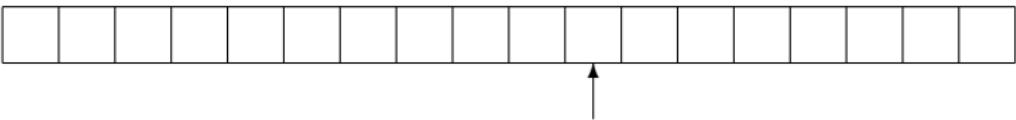
# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

*Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.*

If  $w \equiv A x \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

$w \equiv$  

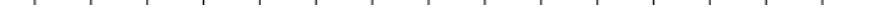
$\hat{w} \equiv$  

## Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.

If  $w \equiv A \times \widehat{A} y$  then  $\widehat{w} \equiv \widehat{y} A \widehat{x} \widehat{A}$ .

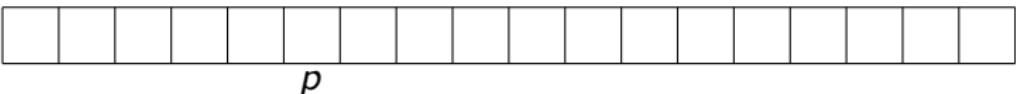
$\hat{w} \equiv$   ↑

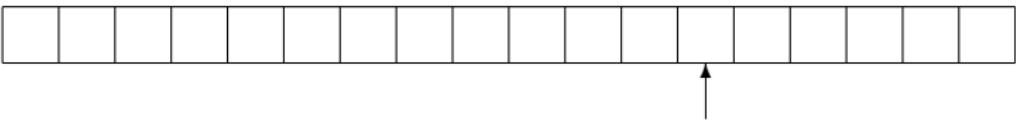
# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

*Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.*

If  $w \equiv A x \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

$w \equiv$  

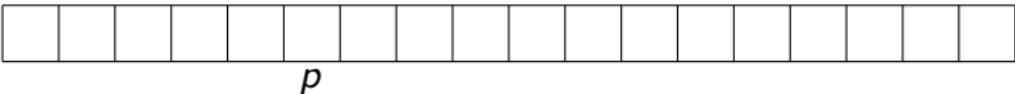
$\hat{w} \equiv$  

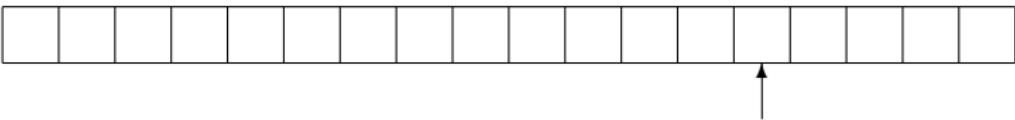
# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

*Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.*

If  $w \equiv A x \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

$w \equiv$  

$\hat{w} \equiv$  

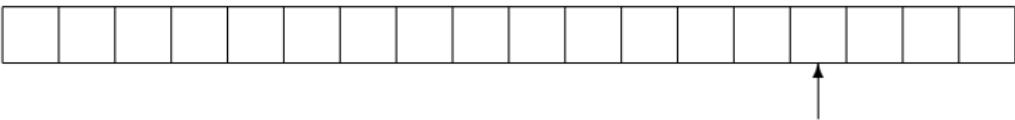
# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

*Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.*

If  $w \equiv A \times \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

$w \equiv$  

$\hat{w} \equiv$  

# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

*Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.*

If  $w \equiv A x \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

$w \equiv$  

$\hat{w} \equiv$  

## Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.

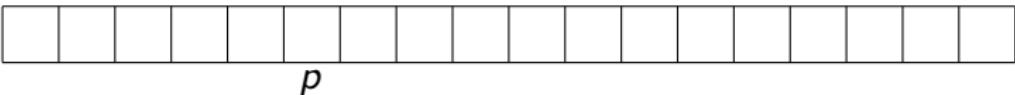
If  $w \equiv A x \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

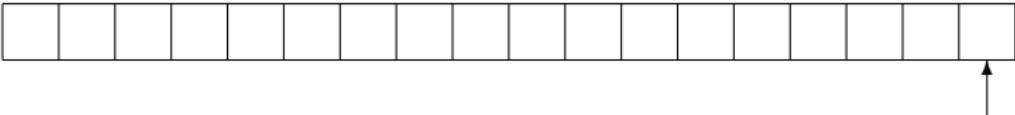
# Listing admissible factors

## Lemma

*Given a position  $p$  in the word  $w$  coding a polyomino, all the admissible factors overlapping  $p$  can be listed in linear time.*

If  $w \equiv A x \hat{A} y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y} A \hat{x} \hat{A}$ .

$w \equiv$  

$\hat{w} \equiv$  

# Detecting pseudo-squares

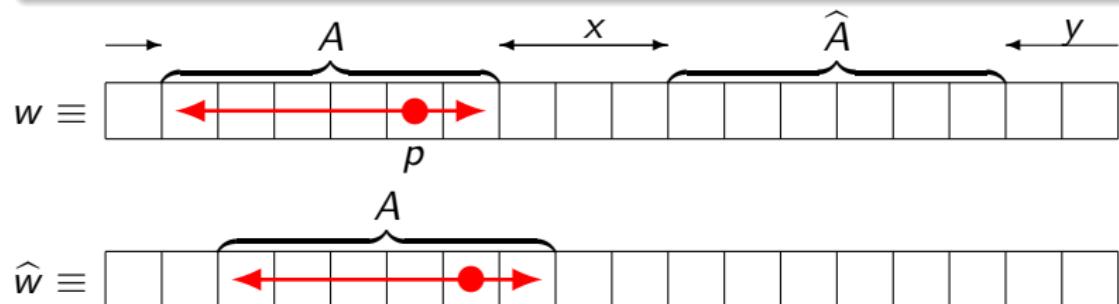
## Theorem

*Let  $w$  be the boundary of  $p$ . Determining if  $w$  codes a pseudo-square is decidable in linear time.*

# Detecting pseudo-squares

## Theorem

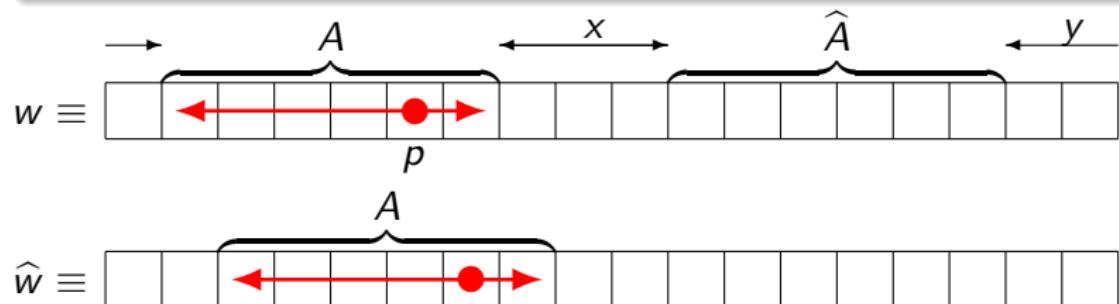
Let  $w$  be the boundary of  $p$ . Determining if  $w$  codes a pseudo-square is decidable in linear time.



# Detecting pseudo-squares

## Theorem

Let  $w$  be the boundary of  $p$ . Determining if  $w$  codes a pseudo-square is decidable in linear time.

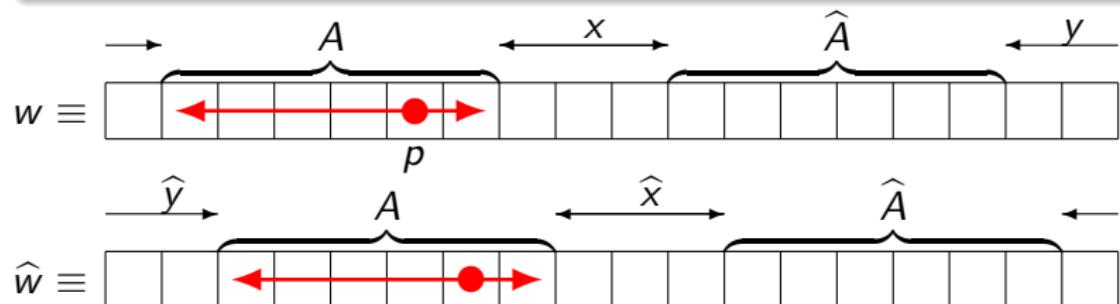


If  $x = \hat{y}$  then  $w \equiv XY\hat{X}\hat{Y}$ .

# Detecting pseudo-squares

## Theorem

*Let  $w$  be the boundary of  $p$ . Determining if  $w$  codes a pseudo-square is decidable in linear time.*



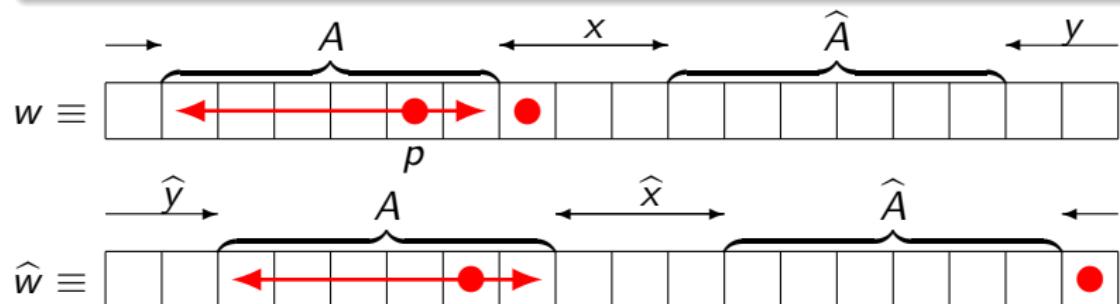
If  $x = \hat{y}$  then  $w \equiv XY\hat{X}\hat{Y}$ .

Since  $w \equiv Ax\hat{A}y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y}A\hat{x}\hat{A}$ .

# Detecting pseudo-squares

## Theorem

*Let  $w$  be the boundary of  $p$ . Determining if  $w$  codes a pseudo-square is decidable in linear time.*



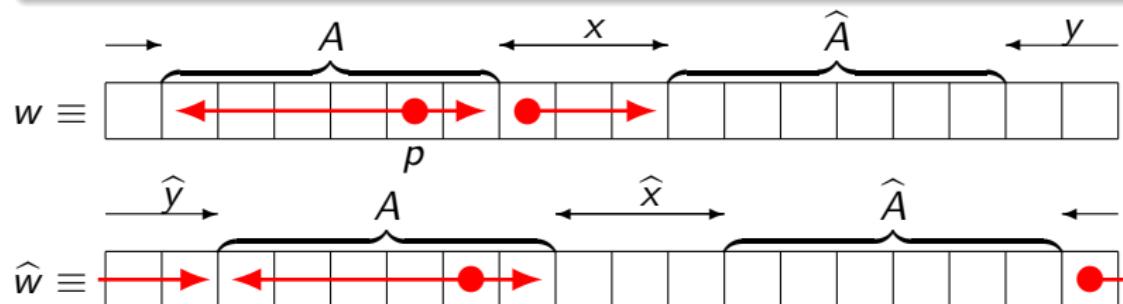
If  $x = \hat{y}$  then  $w \equiv XY\hat{X}\hat{Y}$ .

Since  $w \equiv Ax\hat{A}y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y}A\hat{x}\hat{A}$ .

# Detecting pseudo-squares

## Theorem

*Let  $w$  be the boundary of  $p$ . Determining if  $w$  codes a pseudo-square is decidable in linear time.*



If  $x = \hat{y}$  then  $w \equiv XY\hat{X}\hat{Y}$ .

Since  $w \equiv Ax\hat{A}y$  then  $\hat{w} \equiv \hat{y}A\hat{x}\hat{A}$ .

*THANK YOU!*