

# Differentiation Properties Related to the Keleti Perimeter to Area Conjecture

Paul Humke, Cameron Marcott, Bjorn Mellem, Cole Stiegler

June 4, 2013

Introduction

What is Known

Preparing to Use Old Tools

Continuity of  $p$  and  $\alpha$

Differentiability of  $p$  and  $a$

## Keleti's Perimeter to Area Conjecture (PAC)

*The perimeter to area ratio of the union of finitely many unit squares in a plane does not exceed 4.*

## Keleti's Perimeter to Area Conjecture (PAC)

*The perimeter to area ratio of the union of finitely many unit squares in a plane does not exceed 4.*

- ▶ Problem 6 on the famous Hungarian *Schweitzer Competition* in 1998. **Show the perimeter to area ratio is bounded.**

## Keleti's Perimeter to Area Conjecture (PAC)

*The perimeter to area ratio of the union of finitely many unit squares in a plane does not exceed 4.*

- ▶ Problem 6 on the famous Hungarian *Schweitzer Competition* in 1998. **Show the perimeter to area ratio is bounded.**
- ▶ Later that same year, Keleti published his **Perimeter to Area Conjecture** that this bound is actually 4.

## Keleti's Perimeter to Area Conjecture (PAC)

*The perimeter to area ratio of the union of finitely many unit squares in a plane does not exceed 4.*

- ▶ Problem 6 on the famous Hungarian *Schweitzer Competition* in 1998. **Show the perimeter to area ratio is bounded.**
- ▶ Later that same year, Keleti published his **Perimeter to Area Conjecture** that this bound is actually 4.
- ▶ To date, the best known bound is slightly less than **5.6**.

# GYENES' RESULTS

## Theorem (Gyenes)

*If the squares are oriented, the PAC is true.*

# GYENES' RESULTS

## Theorem (Gyenes)

*If the squares are oriented, the PAC is true.*

## Theorem (Gyenes)

*If the squares have a common center, the PAC is true.*



# GYENES' RESULTS

## Theorem (Gyenes)

*If the squares are oriented, the PAC is true.*

## Theorem (Gyenes)

*If the squares have a common center, the PAC is true.*

## Theorem (Gyenes)

*There exist congruent convex sets ,  $E_1 \cong E_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  such that the perimeter to area ratio for  $E_1 \cup E_2$  exceeds the perimeter to area ratio for either one of them.*

## A Convex Counterexample

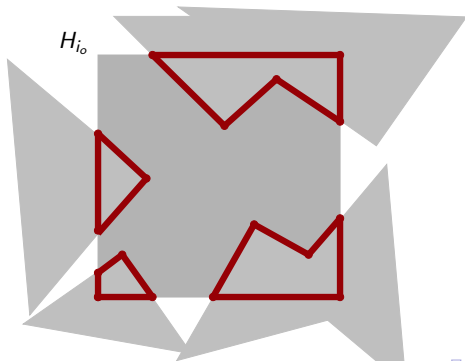


## A Tantalizing Tidbit

Suppose a counterexample exists. Then there is a counterexample with a least number of squares. The ISOPERIMETRIC INEQUALITY yields

### Theorem

*If  $\mathcal{H} = \bigcup_{i=1}^n H_i$  is an optimal counterexample, then for each  $i \leq n$ , the area of  $H_i \cap (\mathcal{H} \setminus H_i) > \frac{\pi}{4}$ .*



# BASIC NOTATION

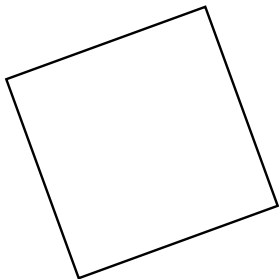
1.  $\mathcal{H} = \bigcup_{i=1}^n H_i$  is the finite union of unit squares  $H_i$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .
2.  $p(\mathcal{H})$  is the perimeter of  $\mathcal{H}$ .
3.  $\alpha(\mathcal{H})$  denotes the area of  $\mathcal{H}$ .
4. square  $\equiv$  unit square in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

# THINKING EUCLIDEAN

If  $H \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  is a square, then  $H$  can be parameterized by a point in  $\mathbb{R}^3$

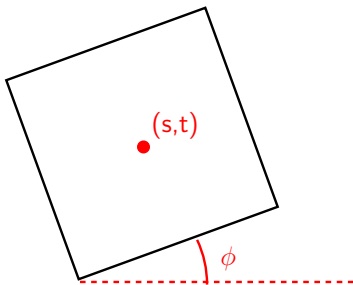
# THINKING EUCLIDEAN

If  $H \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  is a square, then  $H$  can be parameterized by a point in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  whose coordinates are the center of  $H$  and the  $\text{mod } (\pi/2)$  rotational displacement of  $H$ .



# THINKING EUCLIDEAN

If  $H \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  is a square, then  $H$  can be parameterized by a point in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  whose coordinates are the center of  $H$  and the  $\text{mod } (\pi/2)$  rotational displacement of  $H$ .



# BASIC NOTATION REVISITED

Suppose we are interested in unions of  $n$  unit squares  $H_i$ ;  
 $\mathcal{H} = \bigcup_{i=1}^n H_i$ . Then the associated perimeter and area are maps:

1.  $p : \mathbb{R}^{3n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
2.  $\alpha : \mathbb{R}^{3n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
3.  $\kappa \equiv \frac{p}{\alpha}$ .



# BASIC NOTATION REVISITED

Suppose we are interested in unions of  $n$  unit squares  $H_i$ ;  
 $\mathcal{H} = \bigcup_{i=1}^n H_i$ . Then the associated perimeter and area are maps:

1.  $p : \mathbb{R}^{3n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
2.  $\alpha : \mathbb{R}^{3n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
3.  $\kappa \equiv \frac{p}{\alpha}$ .

We'll have a brief look at some continuity and differentiability of these maps.

# CONTINUITY OF $\rho$ AND $\alpha$

Now,  $\alpha$  IS the area function afterall, Lipschitz in each coordinate,  
so ...

# CONTINUITY OF $p$ AND $\alpha$

Now,  $\alpha$  IS the area function afterall, Lipschitz in each coordinate, so ...

## Theorem

$\alpha$  is continuous.

# CONTINUITY OF $p$ AND $\alpha$

Now,  $\alpha$  IS the area function after all, Lipschitz in each coordinate, so ...

## Theorem

$\alpha$  is continuous.

and  $p$  is the perimeter function after that, so ...

# CONTINUITY OF $p$ AND $\alpha$

Now,  $\alpha$  IS the area function after all, Lipschitz in each coordinate, so ...

## Theorem

$\alpha$  is continuous.

and  $p$  is the perimeter function after that, so ...

## Theorem

$p$  is often discontinuous, but only with jump discontinuities.

# CONTINUITY OF $p$ AND $\alpha$

Now,  $\alpha$  IS the area function after all, Lipschitz in each coordinate, so ...

## Theorem

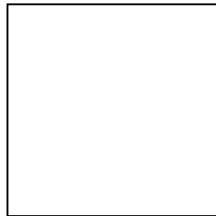
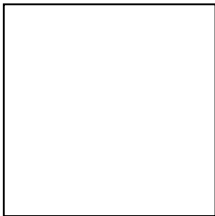
$\alpha$  is continuous.

and  $p$  is the perimeter function after that, so ...

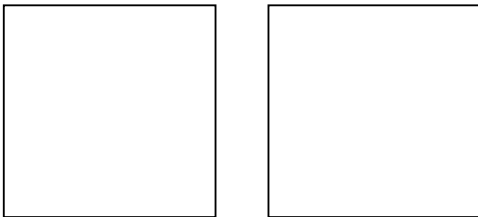
## Theorem

$p$  is often discontinuous, but only with jump discontinuities.

# DISCONTINUITY OF $p$



# DISCONTINUITY OF $p$



Consequently, let's first restrict the domain somewhat to avoid such unpleasanties.



1.  $\mathcal{H} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  has **distinct rotational displacement** if  $\phi_i \neq \phi_j$  when  $i \neq j$

1.  $\mathcal{H} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  has **distinct rotational displacement** if  $\phi_i \neq \phi_j$  when  $i \neq j$
2.  $\mathcal{H}$  is **vertex free** if no vertex of  $H_i$  lies on the boundary of  $H_j$  whenever  $i \neq j$ .

1.  $\mathcal{H} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  has **distinct rotational displacement** if  $\phi_i \neq \phi_j$  when  $i \neq j$
2.  $\mathcal{H}$  is **vertex free** if no vertex of  $H_i$  lies on the boundary of  $H_j$  whenever  $i \neq j$ .
3.  $\mathcal{H}$  is **triple free** if no point lies on the boundaries of three distinct  $H_i$ 's.

1.  $\mathcal{H} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  has **distinct rotational displacement** if  $\phi_i \neq \phi_j$  when  $i \neq j$
2.  $\mathcal{H}$  is **vertex free** if no vertex of  $H_i$  lies on the boundary of  $H_j$  whenever  $i \neq j$ .
3.  $\mathcal{H}$  is **triple free** if no point lies on the boundaries of three distinct  $H_i$ 's.

$\mathcal{H}$  is said to be in **standard position** provided  $\mathcal{H}$  is all three.

1.  $\mathcal{H} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  has **distinct rotational displacement** if  $\phi_i \neq \phi_j$  when  $i \neq j$
2.  $\mathcal{H}$  is **vertex free** if no vertex of  $H_i$  lies on the boundary of  $H_j$  whenever  $i \neq j$ .
3.  $\mathcal{H}$  is **triple free** if no point lies on the boundaries of three distinct  $H_i$ 's.

$\mathcal{H}$  is said to be in **standard position** provided  $H$  is all three.

### Theorem (a brief aside)

*The set of points which are in standard position is the complement of a sparse set in the sense that it is a subset of the complement of a countable union of monotonic surfaces and so are both residual and of full measure in  $\mathbb{R}^{3n}$ .*

# CONTINUITY OF $p$ AND $\alpha$

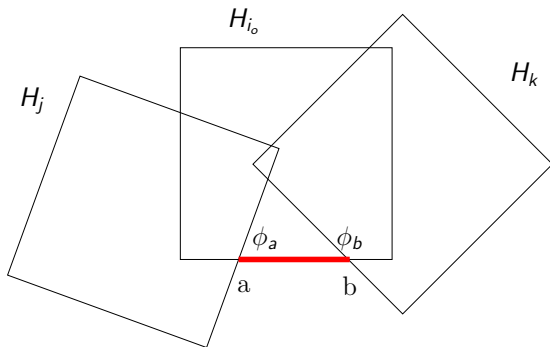
## Theorem

*The perimeter function  $p$  is continuous at every point  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  which is in standard position.*

# CONTINUITY OF $p$ AND $\alpha$

## Theorem

The perimeter function  $p$  is continuous at every point  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  which is in standard position.



# DIFFERENTIABILITY OF $p$ AND $\alpha$

Here we are interested in the following questions:

1. Are  $p$  and  $\alpha$  differentiable at points in standard position?
2. What IS the derivative at those points?



# DIFFERENTIABILITY OF $p$ AND $\alpha$

Here we are interested in the following questions:

1. Are  $p$  and  $\alpha$  differentiable at points in standard position?
2. What IS the derivative at those points?

So we do the obvious:

1. **compute the first partials** and
2. **show they're continuous.**

# DIFFERENTIABILITY OF $p$

## Theorem

*The perimeter function  $p : \mathbb{R}^{3n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is differentiable at every point  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  in standard position.*

OUTLINE OF PROOF.

1. Fix  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  and  $1 \leq i_0 \leq n$ .

# DIFFERENTIABILITY OF $p$

## Theorem

*The perimeter function  $p : \mathbb{R}^{3n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is differentiable at every point  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  in standard position.*

OUTLINE OF PROOF.

1. Fix  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  and  $1 \leq i_0 \leq n$ .
2. Fix a segment on the boundary of  $\mathcal{H}$ .

# DIFFERENTIABILITY OF $p$

## Theorem

*The perimeter function  $p : \mathbb{R}^{3n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is differentiable at every point  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  in standard position.*

OUTLINE OF PROOF.

1. Fix  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  and  $1 \leq i_o \leq n$ .
2. Fix a segment on the boundary of  $\mathcal{H}$ .
3. Compute the contribution to each of the 3 partials,  $\frac{\partial p}{\partial s_{i_o}}$ ,  $\frac{\partial p}{\partial t_{i_o}}$  and,  $\frac{\partial p}{\partial \phi_{i_o}}$ .

# DIFFERENTIABILITY OF $p$

## Theorem

*The perimeter function  $p : \mathbb{R}^{3n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is differentiable at every point  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  in standard position.*

OUTLINE OF PROOF.

1. Fix  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  and  $1 \leq i_o \leq n$ .
2. Fix a segment on the boundary of  $\mathcal{H}$ .
3. Compute the contribution to each of the 3 partials,  $\frac{\partial p}{\partial s_{i_o}}$ ,  $\frac{\partial p}{\partial t_{i_o}}$  and,  $\frac{\partial p}{\partial \phi_{i_o}}$ .

$\frac{\partial p}{\partial \phi_{i_o}}$  for example.

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial \phi_{i_0}}$$

CASE 1. The segment misses  $H_{i_0}$ .

In this case the contribution is **0**.

CASE 2. The segment lies on  $H_{i_0}$ .

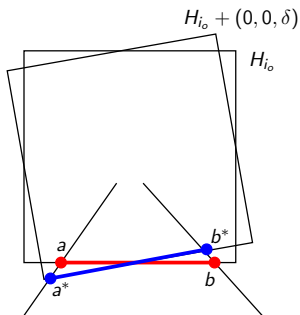


Figure:  $[a, b]$  and  $[a^*, b^*]$

## CASE 2. COMPUTATION

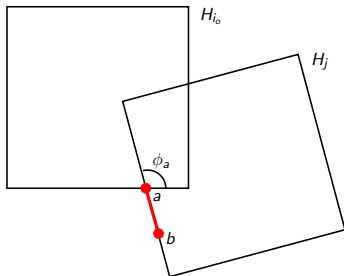
$$a^* = \left( \frac{x_1 \tan \phi_a}{\tan \phi_a - \tan \delta}, \frac{x_1 \tan \phi_a \tan \delta}{\tan \phi_a - \tan \delta} - \frac{1}{2} \right)$$
$$b^* = \left( \frac{x_2 \tan \phi_b}{\tan \phi_b + \tan \delta}, \frac{x_2 \tan \phi_b \tan \delta}{\tan \phi_b + \tan \delta} - \frac{1}{2} \right).$$

Hence, **with some trigonometry and limit taking:**

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{|b^* - a^*| - |b - a|}{\delta} = |\mathbf{b} - \mathbf{a}|(\cot \phi_b - \cot \phi_a).$$

### CASE 3.

CASE 3. The segment intersects  $H_{i_0}$  but does not lie on it.



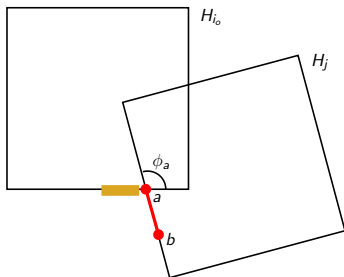
Again, **with some trigonometry and limit taking:**

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{|a^* - a|}{\delta} = \frac{d}{\sin \phi_a}$$



### CASE 3.

CASE 3. The segment intersects  $H_{i_0}$  but does not lie on it.



Again, **with some trigonometry and limit taking:**

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{|a^* - a|}{\delta} = \frac{d}{\sin \phi_a}$$

Oh yes, here is "d."

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial s_{i_0}} \text{ and } \frac{\partial p}{\partial t_{i_0}}$$

These cases have **congruent geometries** and are handled similarly to the case of  $\frac{\partial p}{\partial \phi_{i_0}}$ .

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial s_{i_0}} \text{ and } \frac{\partial p}{\partial t_{i_0}}$$

These cases have **congruent geometries** and are handled similarly to the case of  $\frac{\partial p}{\partial \phi_{i_0}}$ .

**But we still have area to deal with.**

# DIFFERENTIABILITY OF $\alpha$

## Theorem

*The area function  $\alpha : \mathbb{R}^{3n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is differentiable at every point  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  in standard position.*

OUTLINE OF PROOF.

1. Fix  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  and  $1 \leq i_0 \leq n$ .

# DIFFERENTIABILITY OF $\alpha$

## Theorem

*The area function  $\alpha : \mathbb{R}^{3n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is differentiable at every point  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  in standard position.*

OUTLINE OF PROOF.

1. Fix  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  and  $1 \leq i_0 \leq n$ .
2. Fix a segment on the boundary of  $\mathcal{H}$ .

# DIFFERENTIABILITY OF $\alpha$

## Theorem

*The area function  $\alpha : \mathbb{R}^{3n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is differentiable at every point  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  in standard position.*

OUTLINE OF PROOF.

1. Fix  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  and  $1 \leq i_o \leq n$ .
2. Fix a segment on the boundary of  $\mathcal{H}$ .
3. Compute the contribution to each of the 3 partials,  $\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial s_{i_o}}$ ,  $\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial t_{i_o}}$  and,  $\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial \phi_{i_o}}$ .

# DIFFERENTIABILITY OF $\alpha$

## Theorem

The area function  $\alpha : \mathbb{R}^{3n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  is differentiable at every point  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  in standard position.

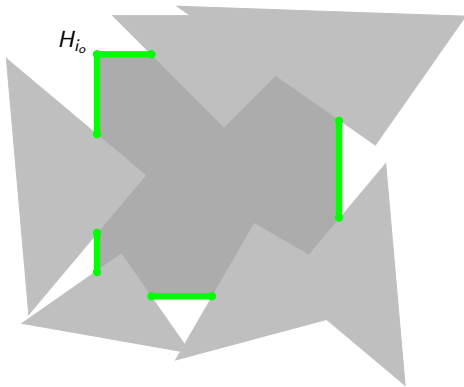
OUTLINE OF PROOF.

1. Fix  $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{R}^{3n}$  and  $1 \leq i_o \leq n$ .
2. Fix a segment on the boundary of  $\mathcal{H}$ .
3. Compute the contribution to each of the 3 partials,  $\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial s_{i_o}}$ ,  $\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial t_{i_o}}$  and,  $\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial \phi_{i_o}}$ .

$\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial \phi_{i_o}}$  for example.

# $\mathcal{H}$ with $H_{i_0}$ Darkened

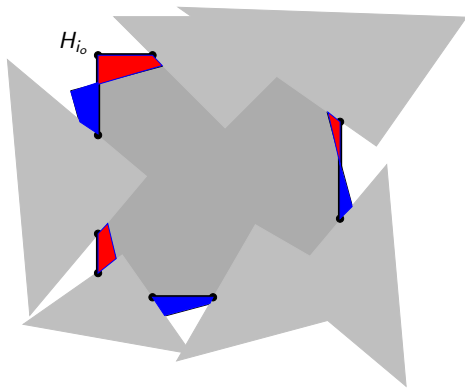
$$\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial \phi_{i_0}}$$



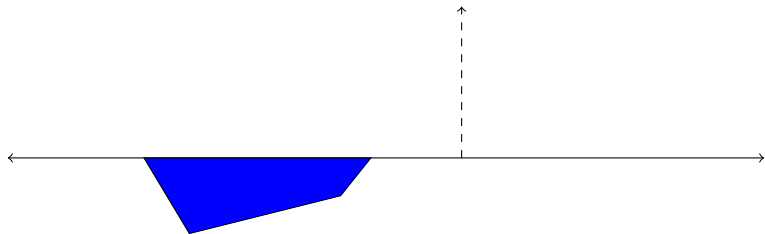


$H$  with  $H_{i_0}$  and Rotated  $H_{i_0}$

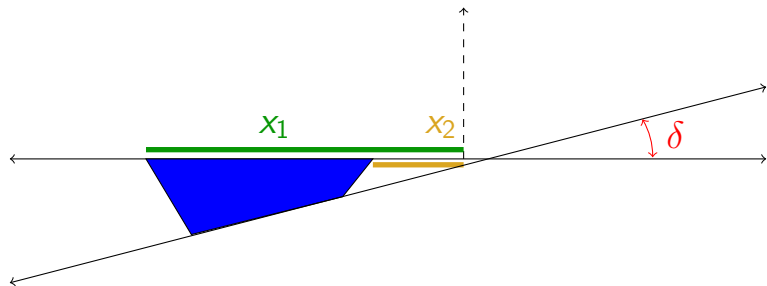
$$\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial \phi_{i_0}}$$



## Pre Computations; What are the Variables?



## Pre Computations; What are the Variables?



# The Computations

$$\Delta\alpha([a, b]) = \frac{(x_1^2 - x_2^2) \tan \phi_a \tan \phi_b \tan \delta + \tan^2 \delta (x_2^2 \tan \phi_b + x_1^2 \tan \phi_a)}{2(\tan \phi_a - \tan \delta)(\tan \phi_b + \tan \delta)}.$$

# The Computations

$$\Delta\alpha([a, b]) = \frac{(x_1^2 - x_2^2) \tan \phi_a \tan \phi_b \tan \delta + \tan^2 \delta (x_2^2 \tan \phi_b + x_1^2 \tan \phi_a)}{2(\tan \phi_a - \tan \delta)(\tan \phi_b + \tan \delta)}.$$

$$\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial \phi_{i_0}} \text{ at } [a, b] = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{\Delta\alpha([a, b])}{\delta} = \frac{x_1^2 - x_2^2}{2}.$$

$$\frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial s_{i_0}} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial \alpha}{\partial t_{i_0}}$$

These cases again have **congruent geometries** and are handled similarly.

## WHERE WE'RE PUSHING THE PEBBLE

Similar ground has been plowed in other lands. For example:

### Theorem (Kneser-Paulson)

*If a finite set of discs are rearranged so that the distance between the centers of any pair decreases, then the area and the perimeter of the union of the discs also decreases.*

THANK YOU!



- [1] Károly Bezdek and Robert Connelly. Pushing disks apart the kneserpoulsen conjecture in the plane. *J. Reine Angew. Math.*, 53:221–236, 2001.
- [2] Béla Bollobás. Area of the union of disks. *Elem. Math.*, 23:60–61, 1968.
- [3] Ho-Lun Cheng and Herbert Edelsbrunner. Area and perimeter derivatives of a union of disks. In Rolf Klein, Hans-Werner Six, and Lutz Wegner, editors, *Computer Science in Perspective*, pages 88–97. Springer-Verlag New York, Inc., New York, NY, USA, 2003.
- [4] Zoltán Gyenes. The ratio of the surface-area and volume of finite union of copies of a fixed set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , 2005. <http://www.cs.elte.hu/~dom/z.pdf>.
- [5] Zoltán Gyenes. The ratio of the perimeter and the area of unions of copies of a fixed set. *Discrete and Computational Geometry*, 45(3):400–409, 2011. [www.springerlink.com/content/h4706266q6rr4m37/fulltext.pdf](http://www.springerlink.com/content/h4706266q6rr4m37/fulltext.pdf).
- [6] Paul Humke, Cameron Marcott, Bjorn Mellem, and Cole Stiegler. Bounded – for sure, but 4? *submitted for publication*, pages 1–15, 2013.
- [7] Tamás Keleti. A covering property of some classes of sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . *Acta Universitatis Carolinae-Mathematica et Physica*, 39(1-2):111–118, 1998.
- [8] Schweitzer miklós matematikai emlékverseny, 1998. [www.math.u-szeged.hu/~mmaroti/schweitzer/schweitzer-1998.pdf](http://www.math.u-szeged.hu/~mmaroti/schweitzer/schweitzer-1998.pdf).