

Two Puzzles

① In $\Pi N 10$, p.22 (July 1980), I proposed, as a puzzle, to find (?) in the following sequence:

..., 7, 9, 12, (?), 24, 36, 56, 90, ...

The point about the answer

$$(?) = 24 \log 2 = 16.6355323...$$

is that it is transcendental, being given (by use of L'Hospital's rule) by $n=0$ in

$$\frac{24}{n} (2^n - 1)$$

all other terms in the sequence being rational numbers.

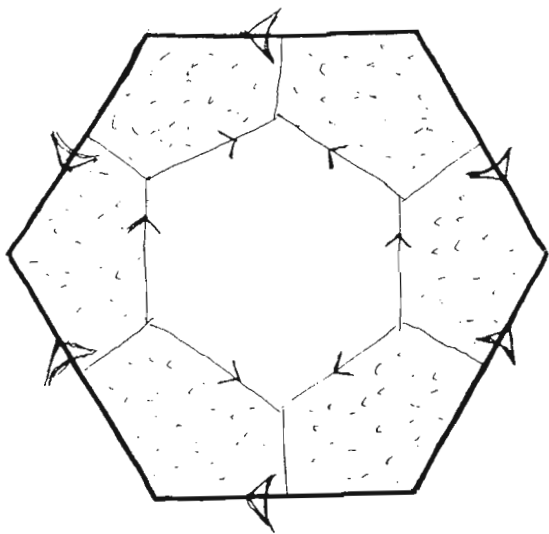
Now try

..., 28, 0, 21, 4, 18, 0, (?), 24, 18, 20, 21, 24, 28, ...

which has a little extra twist about it.

[Hint: first add a certain integer to each term, to make it somewhat more symmetrical]

② This problem is to tile the plane with a regular hexagon, with edge-matching rules and "corner matching rules":



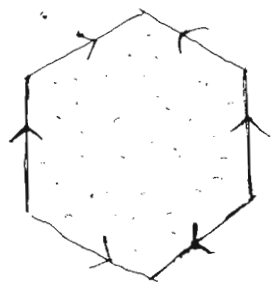
tile

matching rules

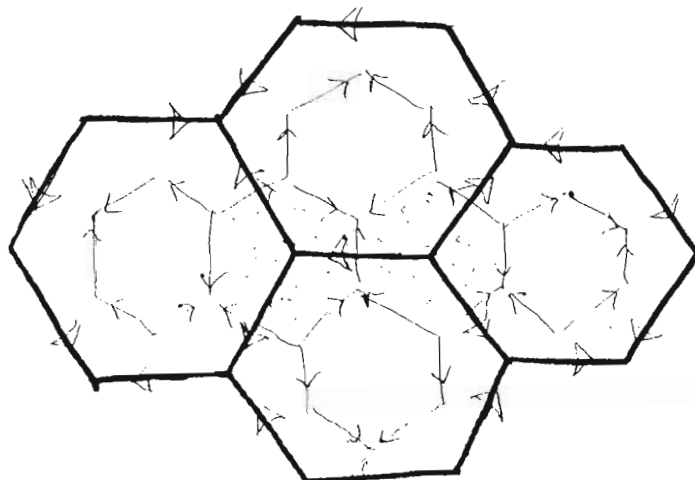
edge



"corner"



To start:



[Handwritten scribbles and signature]