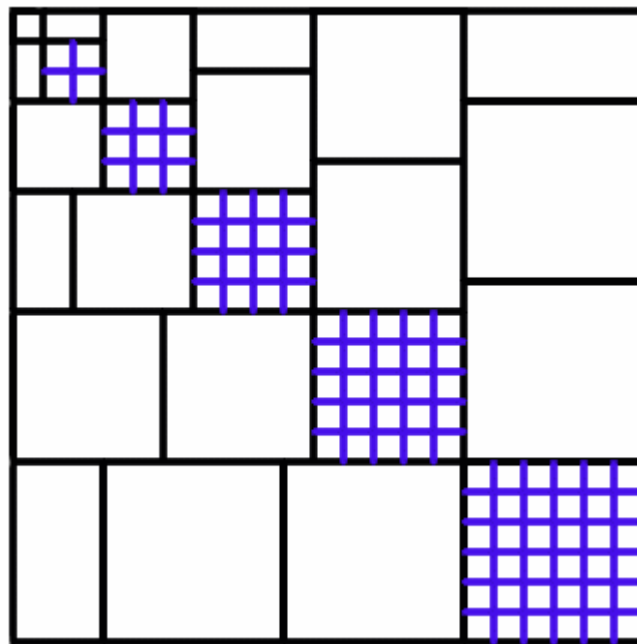


The picture illustrates the formula for the sum of the first six cube numbers:

$$1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + \dots + 6^3 = (1 + 2 + 3 + \dots + 6)^2$$



Can you see which parts of the picture represent each part of the formula?

Could you draw a similar picture to represent the sum of the first seven cube numbers?

What about other sums of cubes?

Suggest a formula for the sum of the first  $n$  cube numbers.

Can you prove that your formula works, using diagrams and explanations?