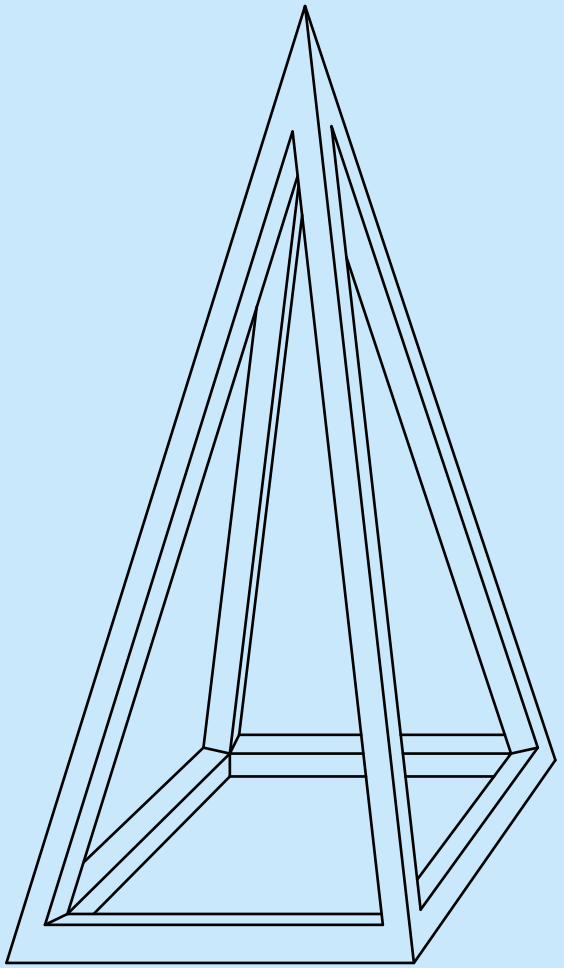
Adolf Loos and Geometry
Platonic solids such as the cube, octahedron, and dodecahedron, as well as the polyhedra derived from them, are a recurring theme in the interiors designed by Adolf Loos (1870–1933). Several of his dodecahedral pendant lights—for example, those at Kniže, a menswear boutique in Vienna (1910–1913)—are still in use.
These solids make reference to drawings by Leonardo da Vinci that appear in the book *Divina Proportione* (1509). Loos may well have been acquainted with the German translation of the work, which was published in Vienna in 1889.

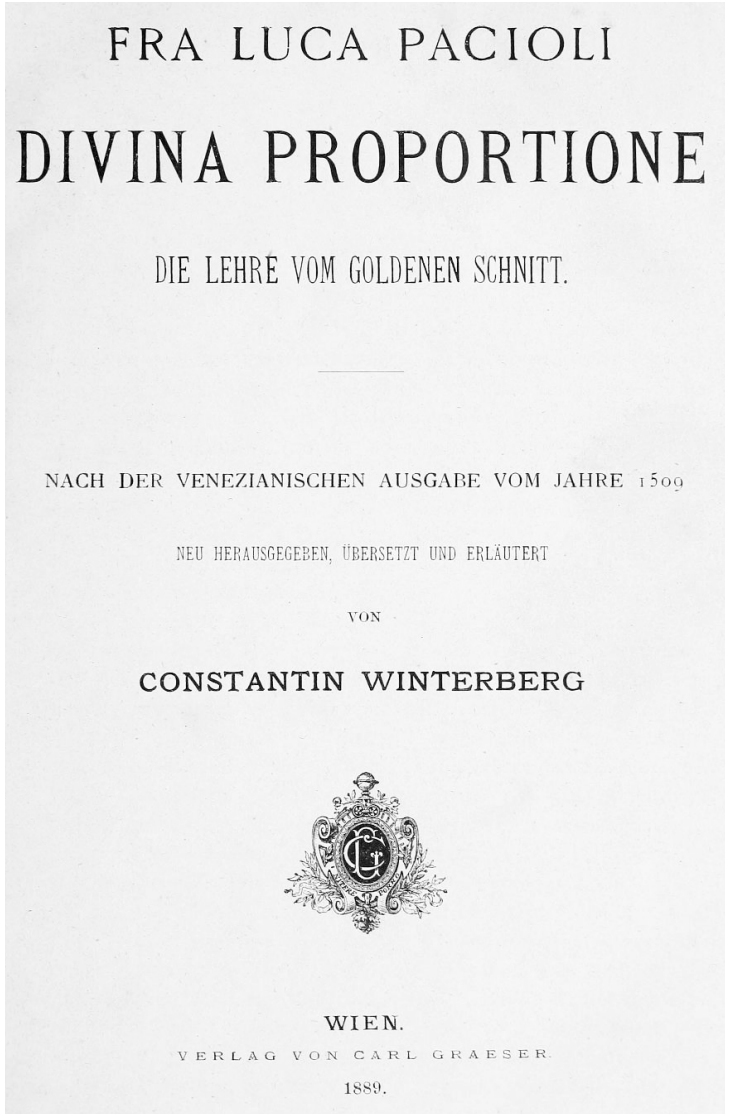
detours adolf loos

MMXX



pyramis laterata quadrangula vacua

martin feiersinger


FRA LUCA PACIOLI

DIVINA PROPORTIONE

DIE LEHRE VOM GOLDENEN SCHNITT.

NACH DER VENEZIANISCHEN AUSGABE VOM JAHRE 1509

NEU HERAUSGEGEBEN, ÜBERSETZT UND ERLÄUTERT

VON

CONSTANTIN WINTERBERG

WIEN.

VERLAG VON CARL GRAESER.

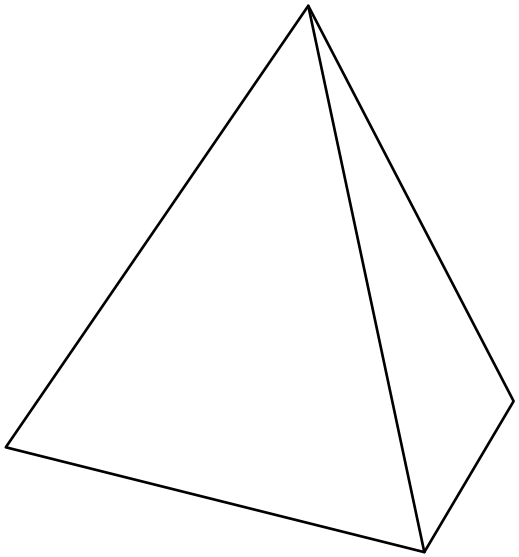
1889.

Divina Proportione by Luca Pacioli with 59 drawings by Leonardo da Vinci, Venice 1509
Title page of the German translation, Vienna 1889

I. solid plane tetrahedron
II. hollow plane tetrahedron
VII. solid plane hexahedron
VIII. hollow plane hexahedron
IX. solid truncated hexahedron
X. hollow truncated hexahedron
XV. solid plane octahedron
XVI. hollow plane octahedron
XXI. solid plane icosahedron
XXII. hollow plane icosahedron
XXVII. solid plane dodecahedron
XXVIII. hollow plane dodecahedron
XXXV. solid plane icosahexahedron
XXXVI. hollow plane icosahexahedron
XXXIX. solid seventy two sided
XL. hollow seventy two sided
LI. solid pentagonal lateral pyramid
LII. hollow pentagonal lateral pyramid
LIII. solid hexagonal lateral column
LIV. hollow hexagonal lateral column

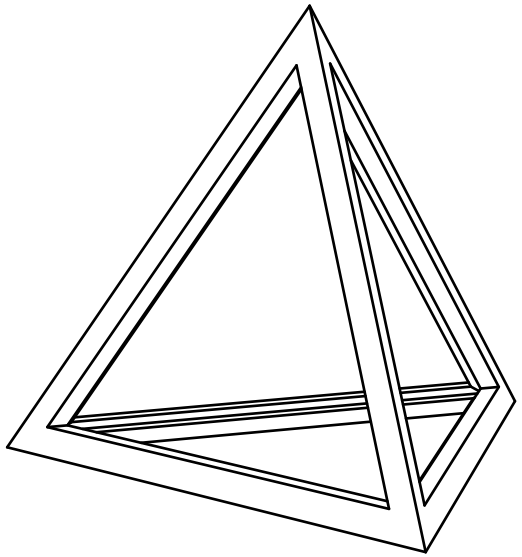
Reconstruction of the 20 drawings in the Venetian edition (1509) that are closely related to Loos's formal vocabulary.
Martin Feiersinger, 2020

solid plane tetrahedron I

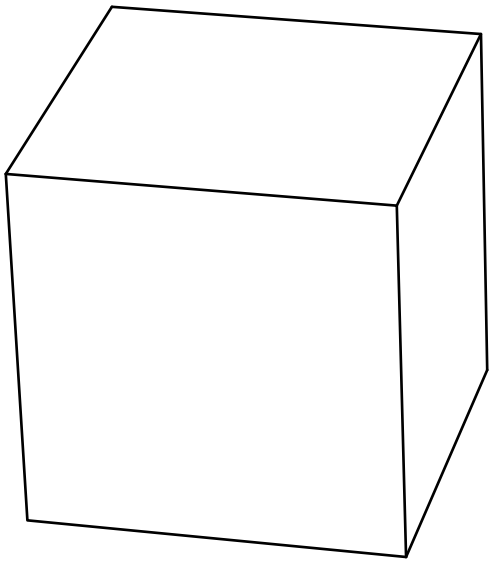


tetrahedron planum solidum

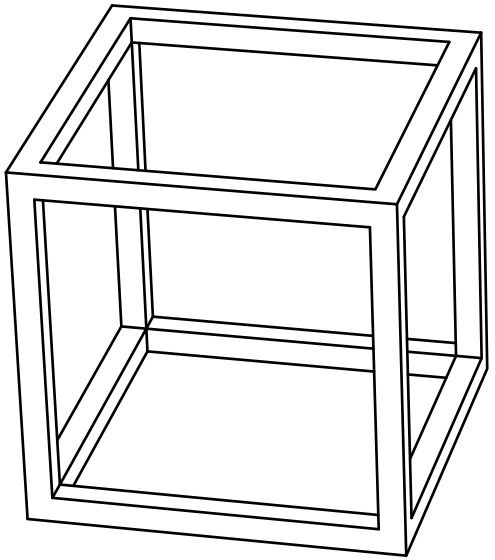
hollow plane tetrahedron II



tetrahedron planum vacuum

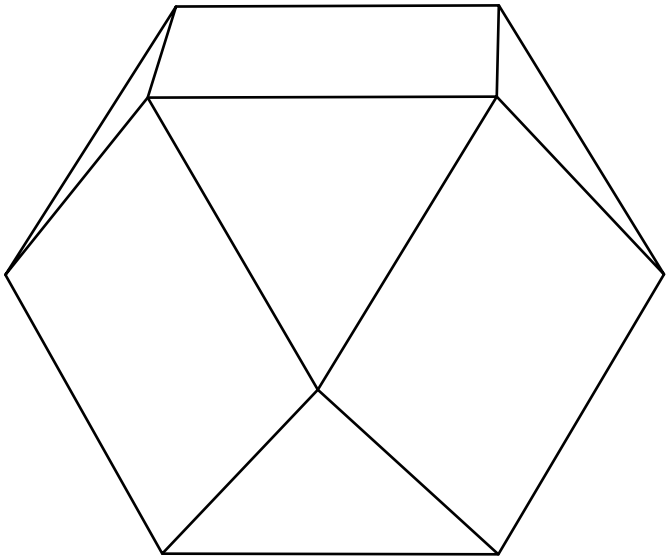


exahedron siue cubus planum solidum



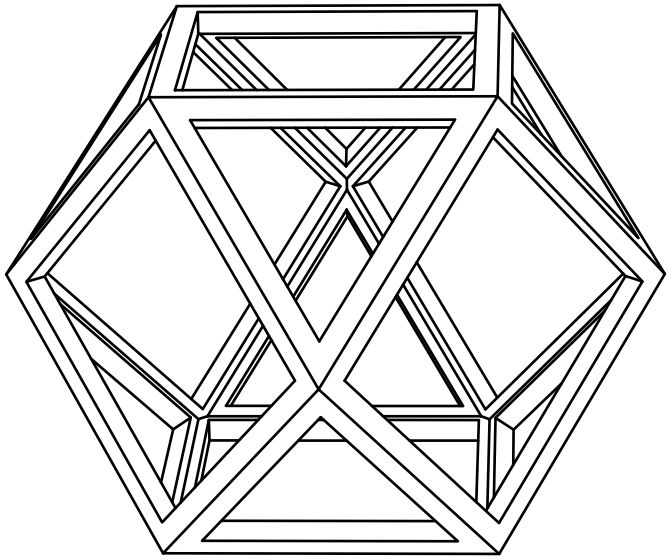
exahedron siue cubus planum vacuum

solid truncated hexahedron IX



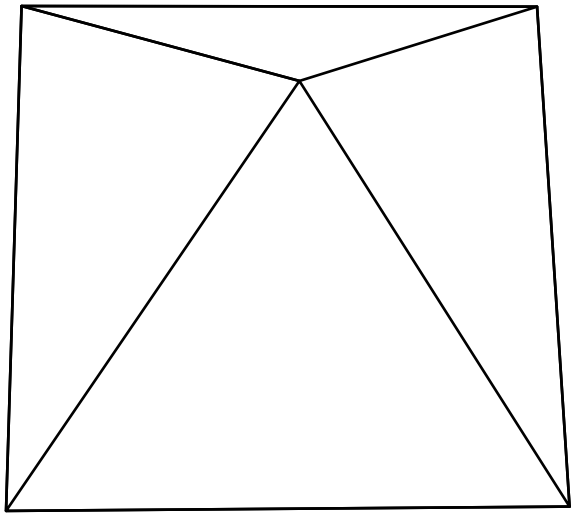
exahedron abscisum solidum

hollow truncated hexahedron X



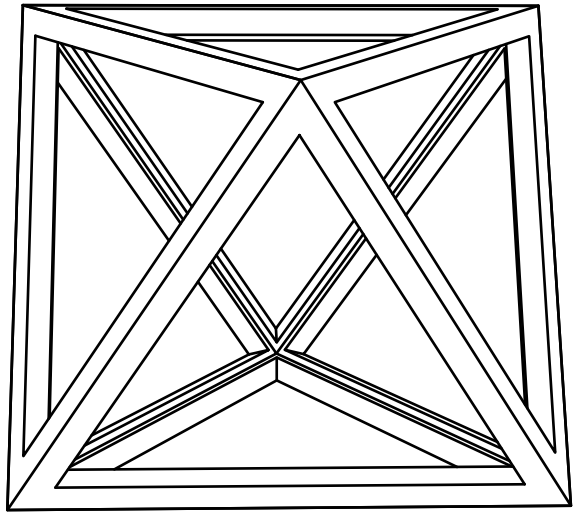
exahedron abscisum vacuum

solid plane octahedron XV



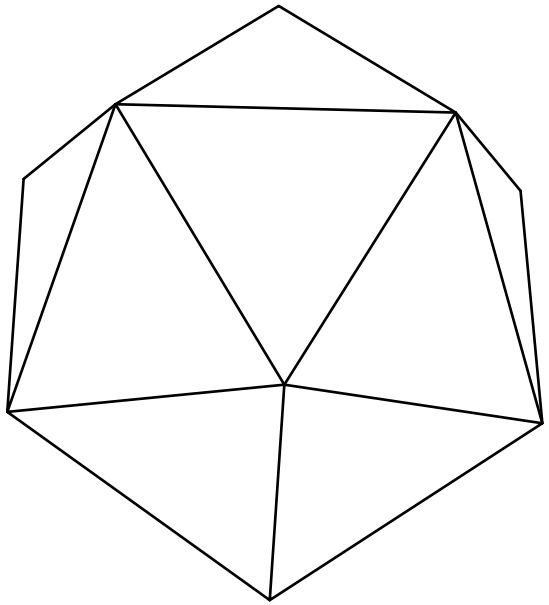
octahedron planum solidum

hollow plane octahedron XVI



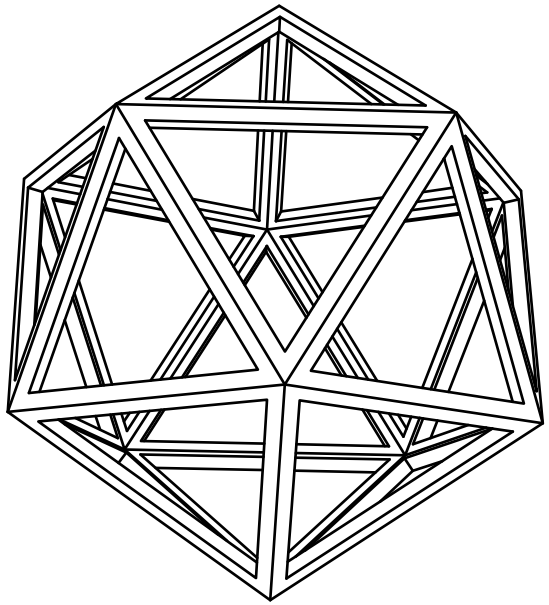
octahedron planum vacuum

solid plane icosahedron XXI



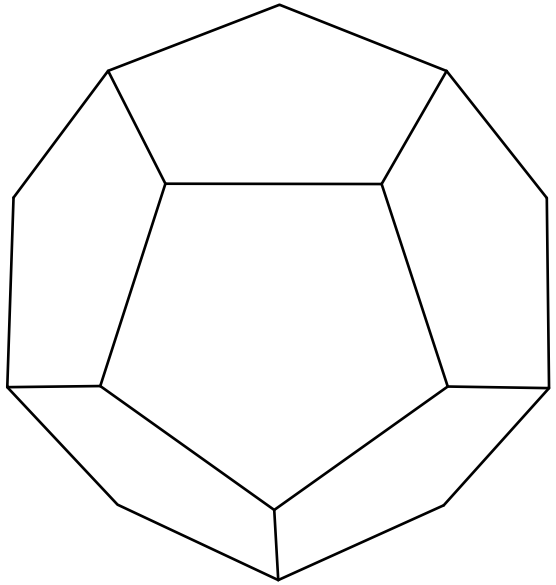
icosahedron planum solidum

hollow plane icosahedron XXII



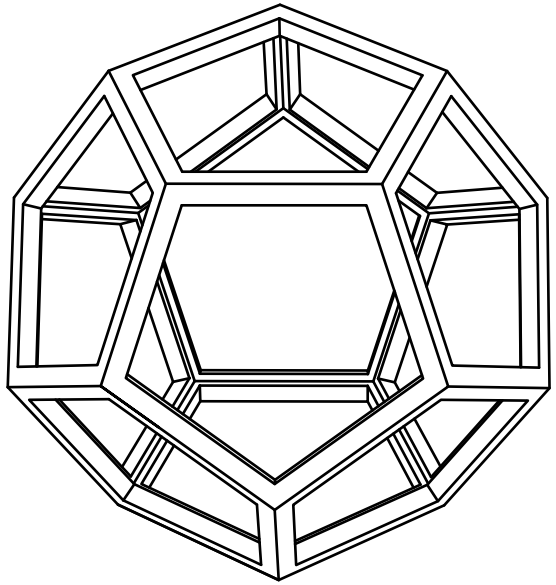
icosahedron planum vacuum

solid plane dodecahedron XXVII



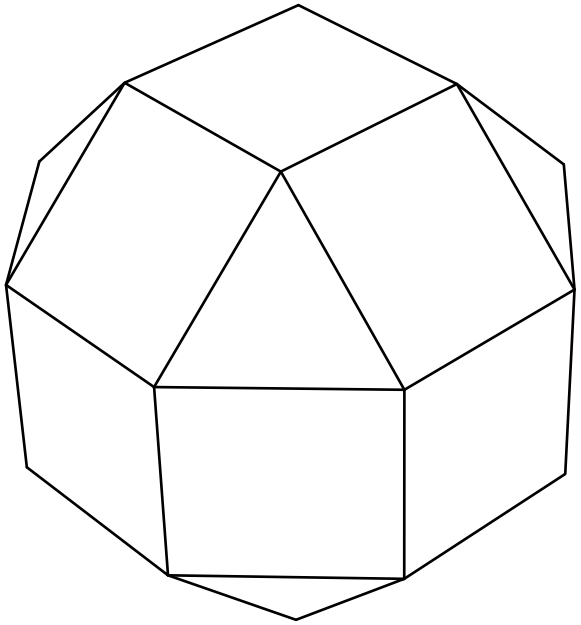
dodecahedron planum solidum

hollow plane dodecahedron XXVIII



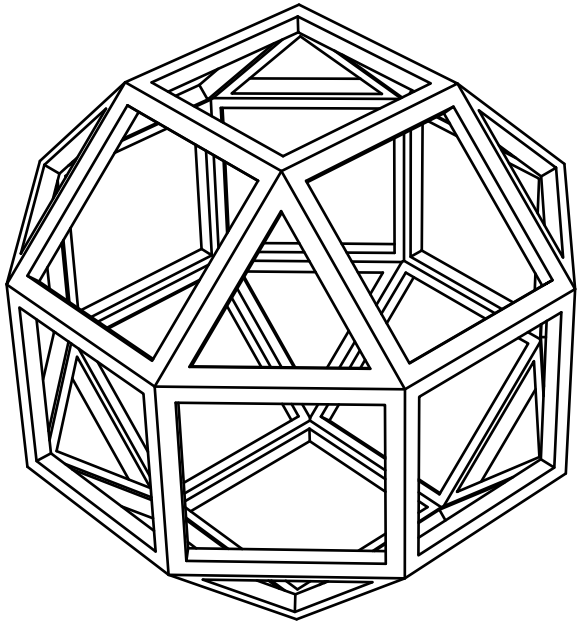
dodecahedron planum vacuum

solid plane icosahexahedron XXXV



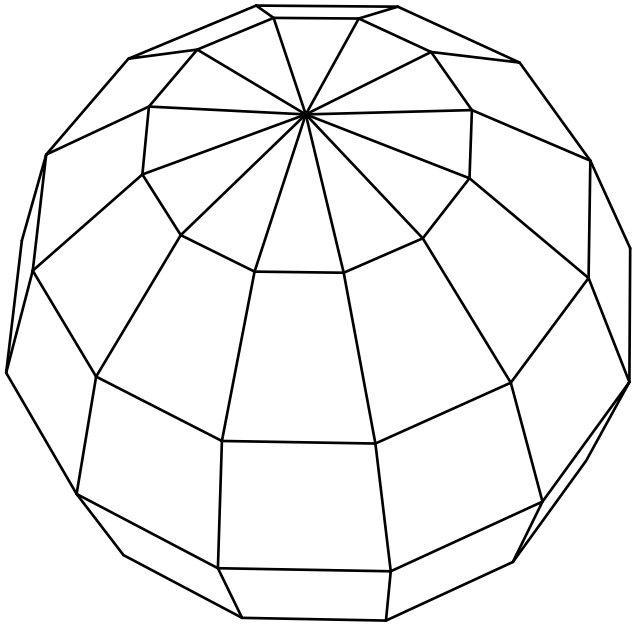
vigintisex basium planum solidum

hollow plane icosahexahedron XXXVI



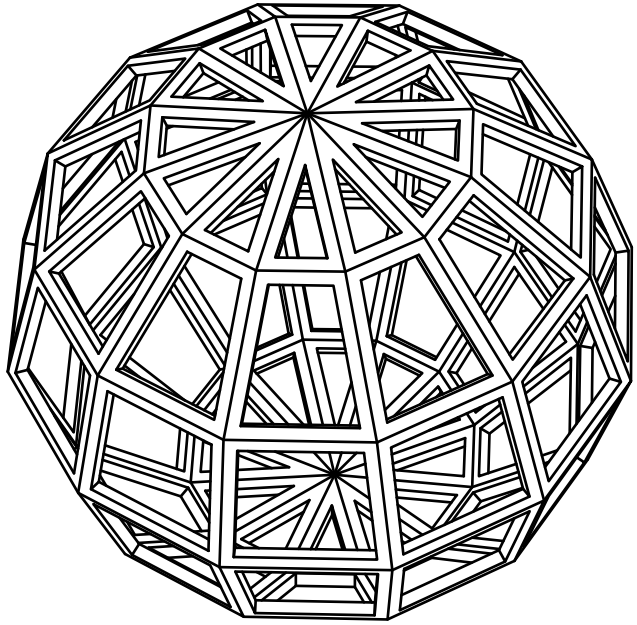
vigintisex basium planum vacuum

solid seventy two sided XXXIX



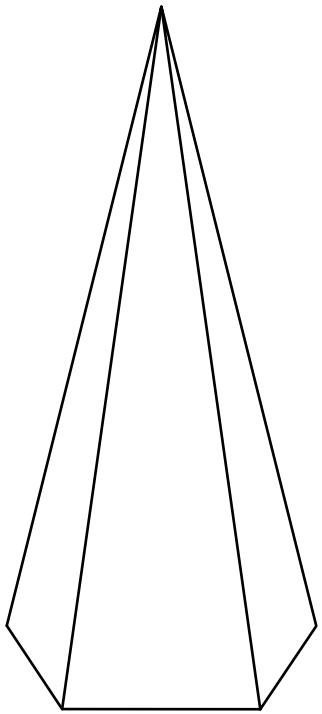
septuaginta duarum basium solidum

hollow seventy two sided XL



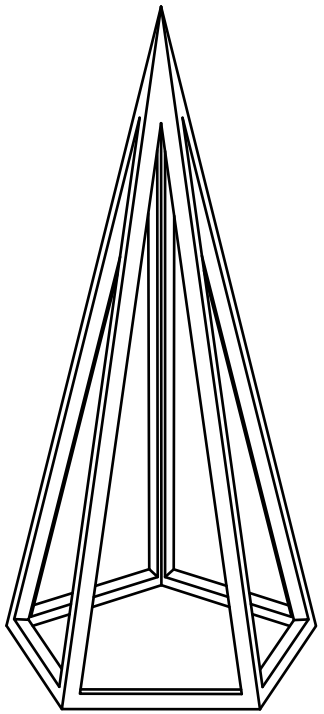
septuaginta duarum basium vacuum

solid pentagonal lateral pyramid LI



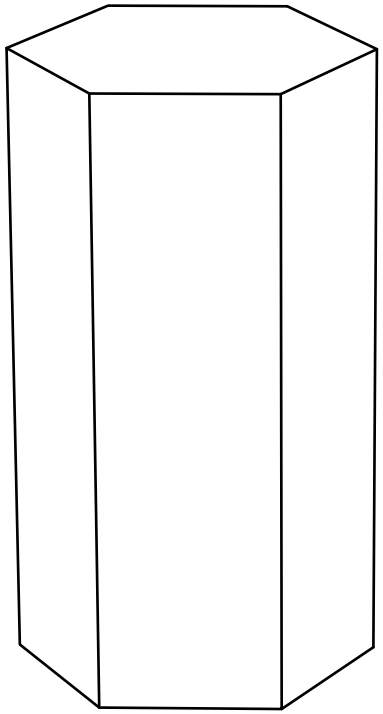
pyramis laterata penthagona solida

hollow pentagonal lateral pyramid LII



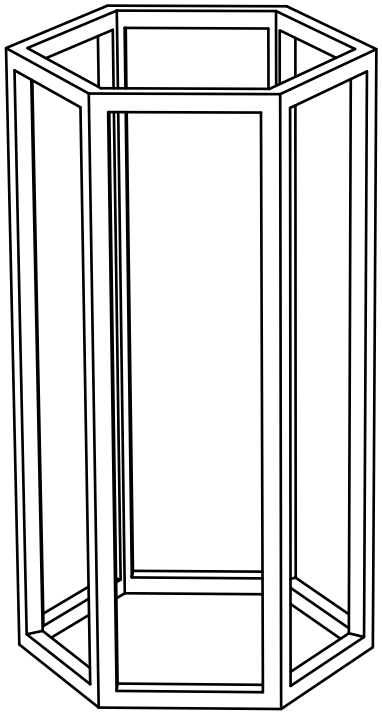
pyramis laterata penthagona vacua

solid hexagonal lateral column LIII



columna laterata exagona solida

hollow hexagonal lateral column LIV



columna laterata exagona vacua