

Computational Geometry

Computational Origami – Foldability

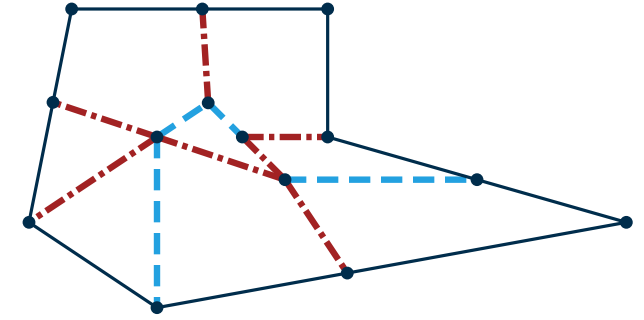
Thomas Bläsius



Flat-Foldable Crease Patterns

Given

- a geometric graph
- each inner edge is labeled either *mountain* or *valley*



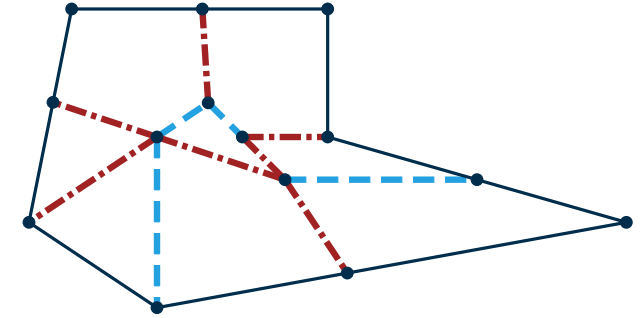
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Interpretation

- boundary of the outer face is a piece of paper (in the following usually a square)



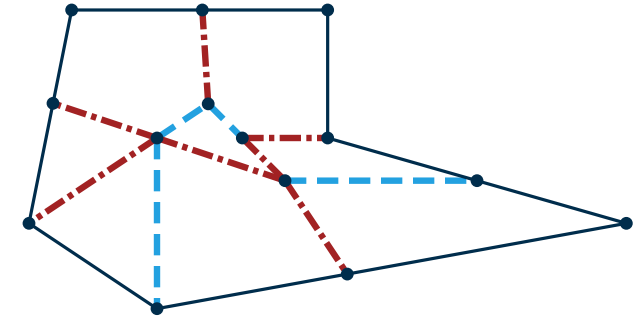
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- boundary of the outer face is a piece of paper (in the following usually a square)
 - the geometric graph is a **crease pattern**
 - folding direction is given via the **mountain/valley-assignment**
- } **mountain/valley pattern**



Flat-Foldable Crease Patterns

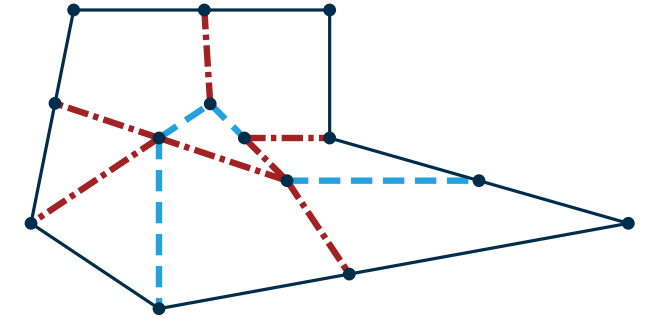
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Problem: is the mountain/valley pattern flat foldable?



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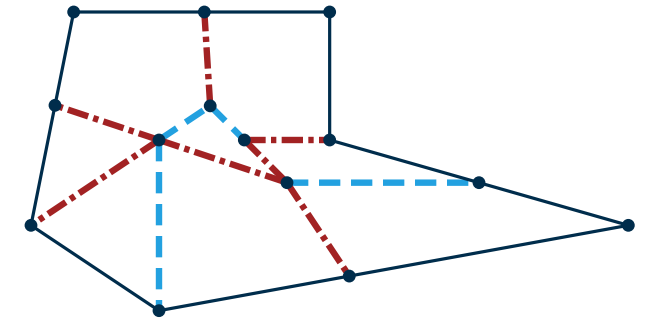
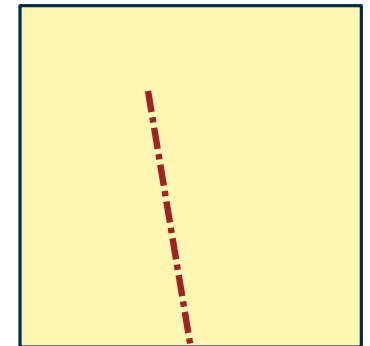
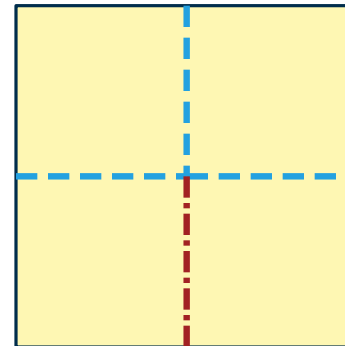
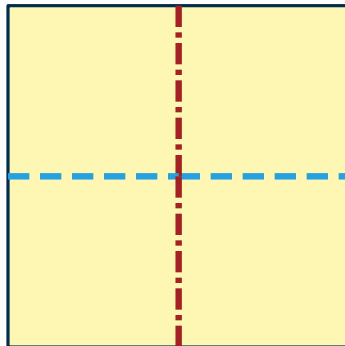
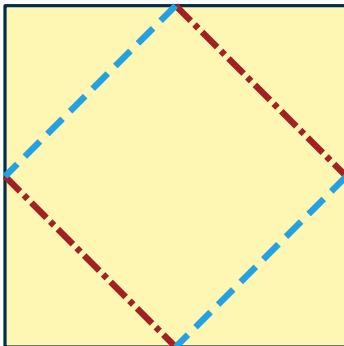
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Examples:



Flat-Foldable Crease Patterns

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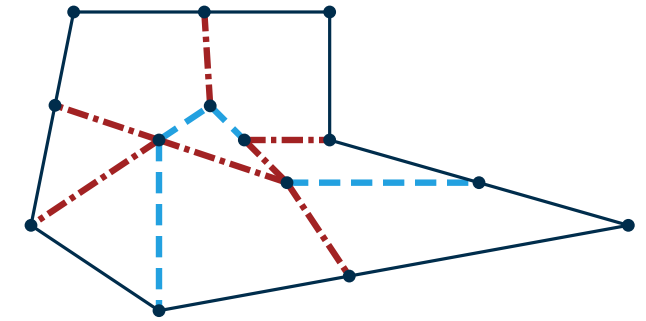
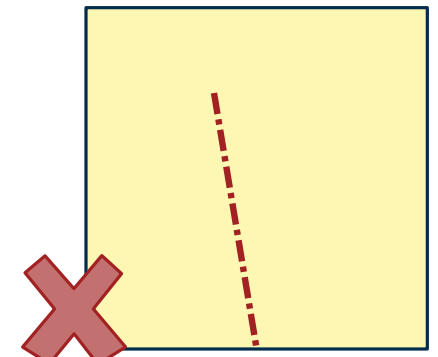
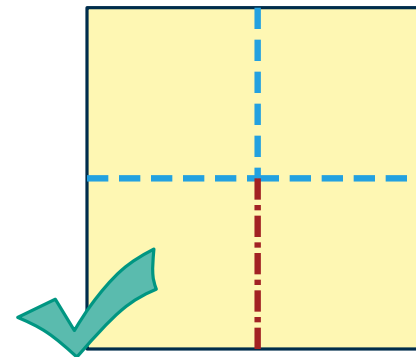
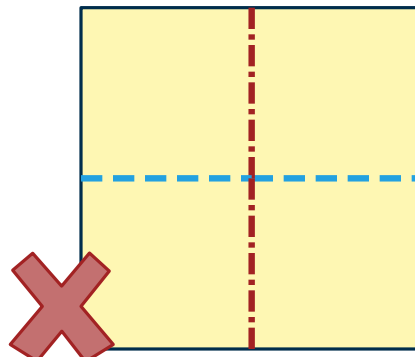
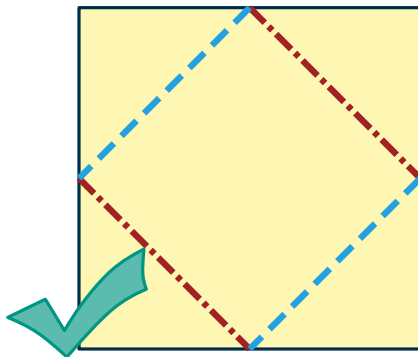
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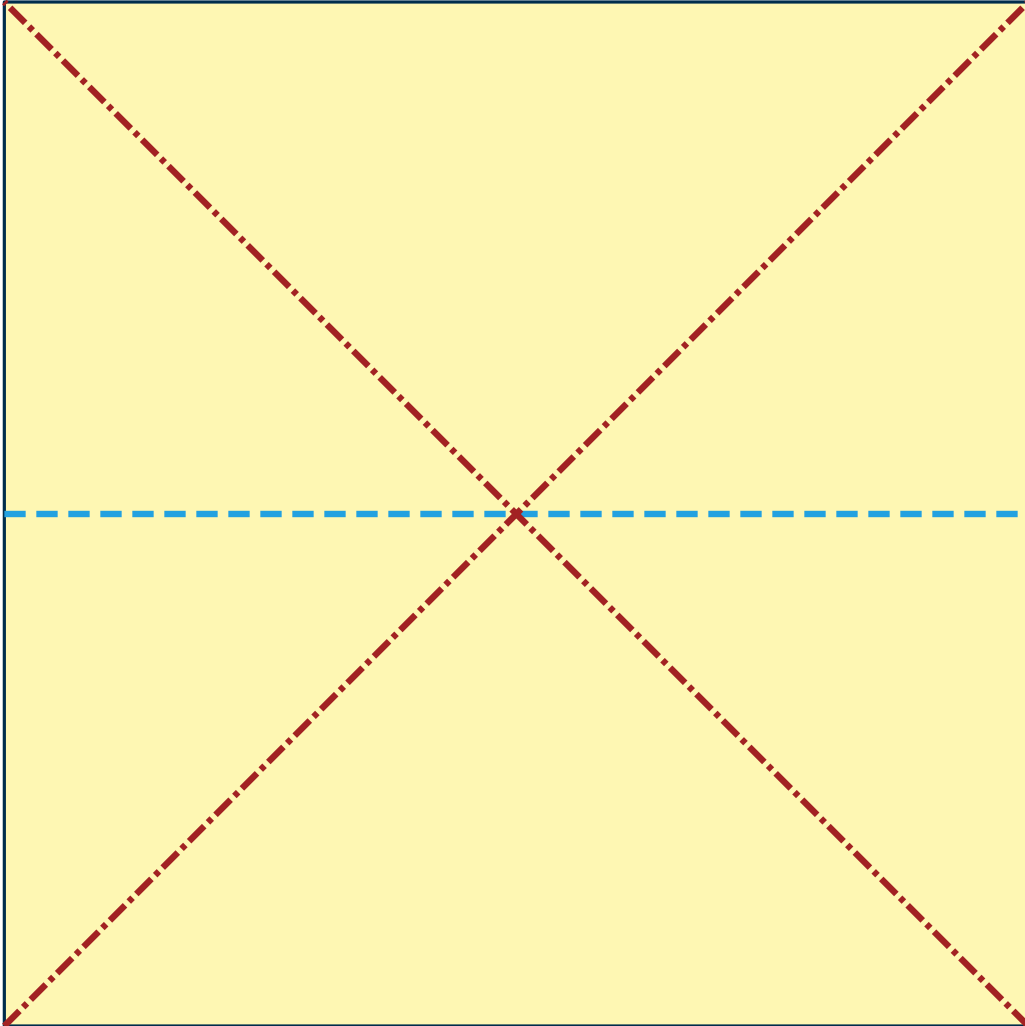
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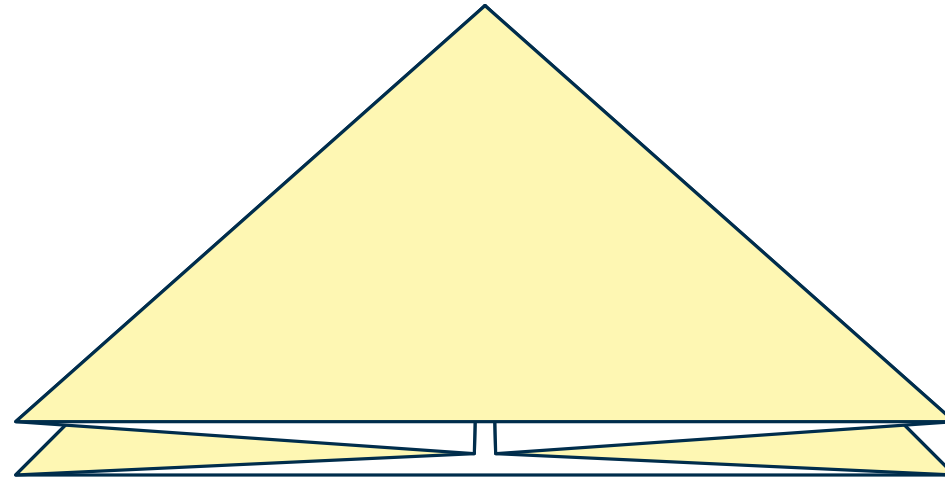
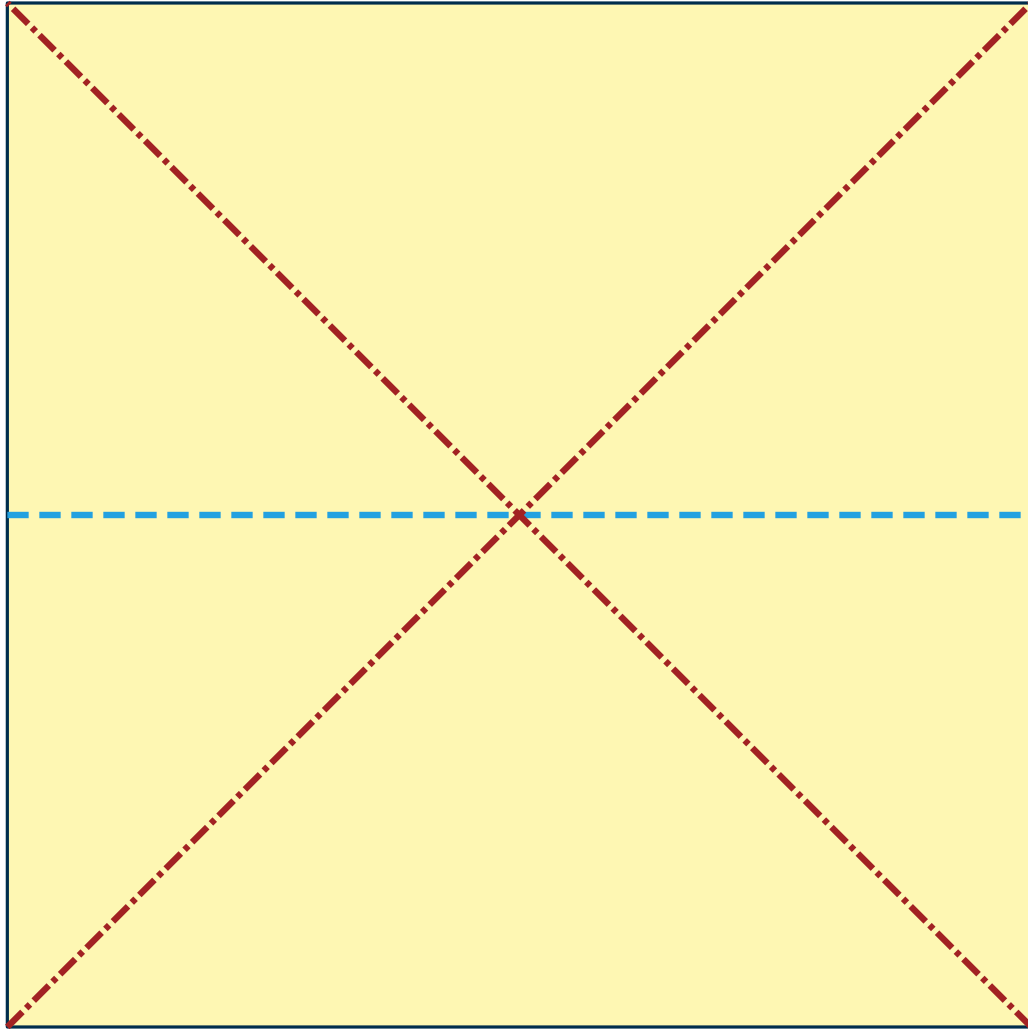
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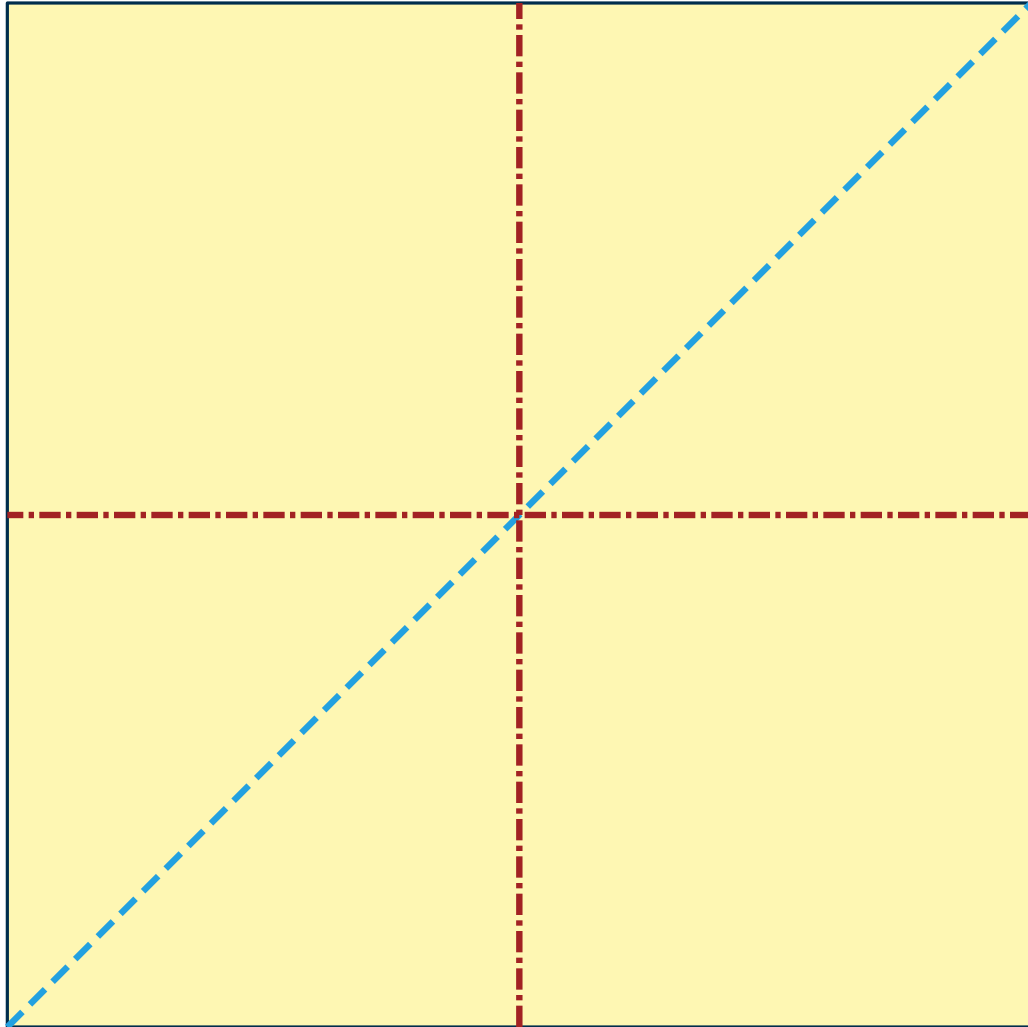
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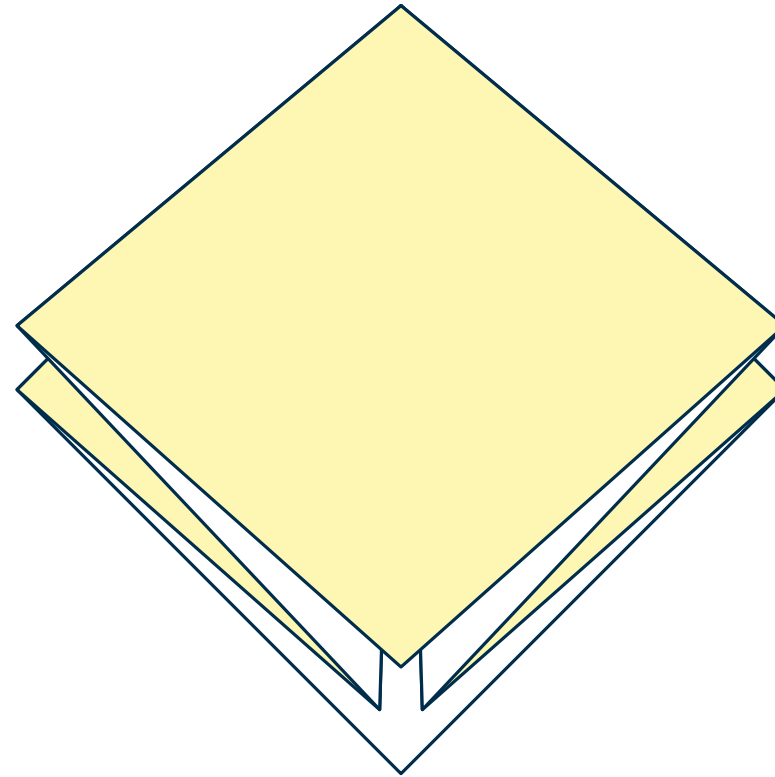
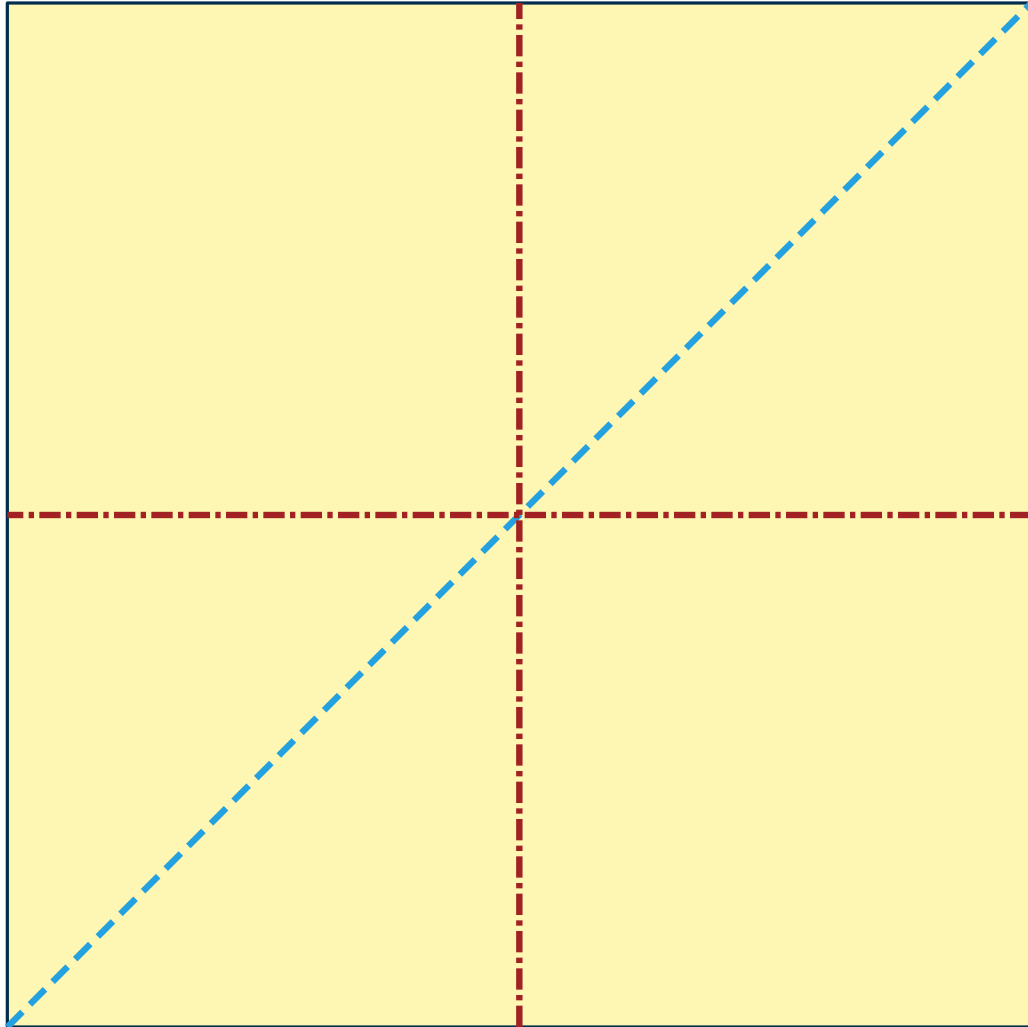
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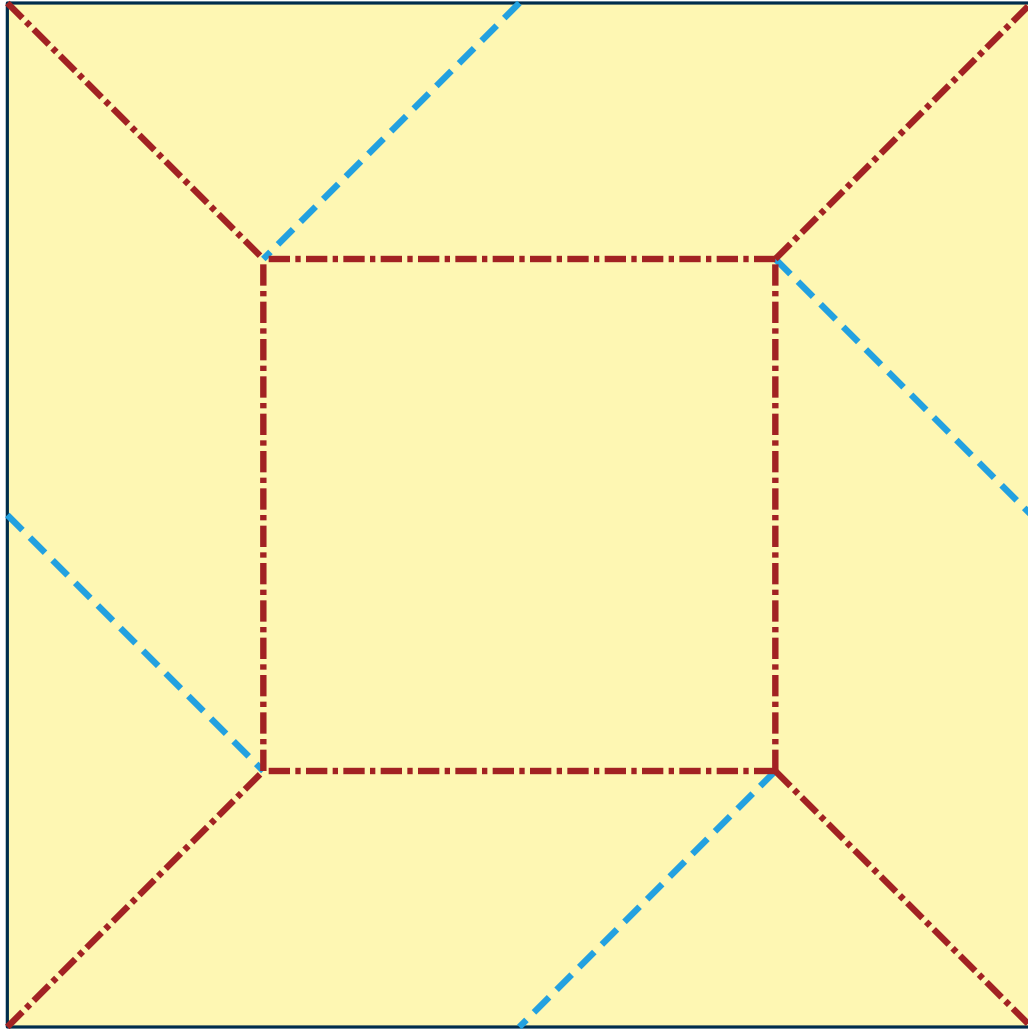
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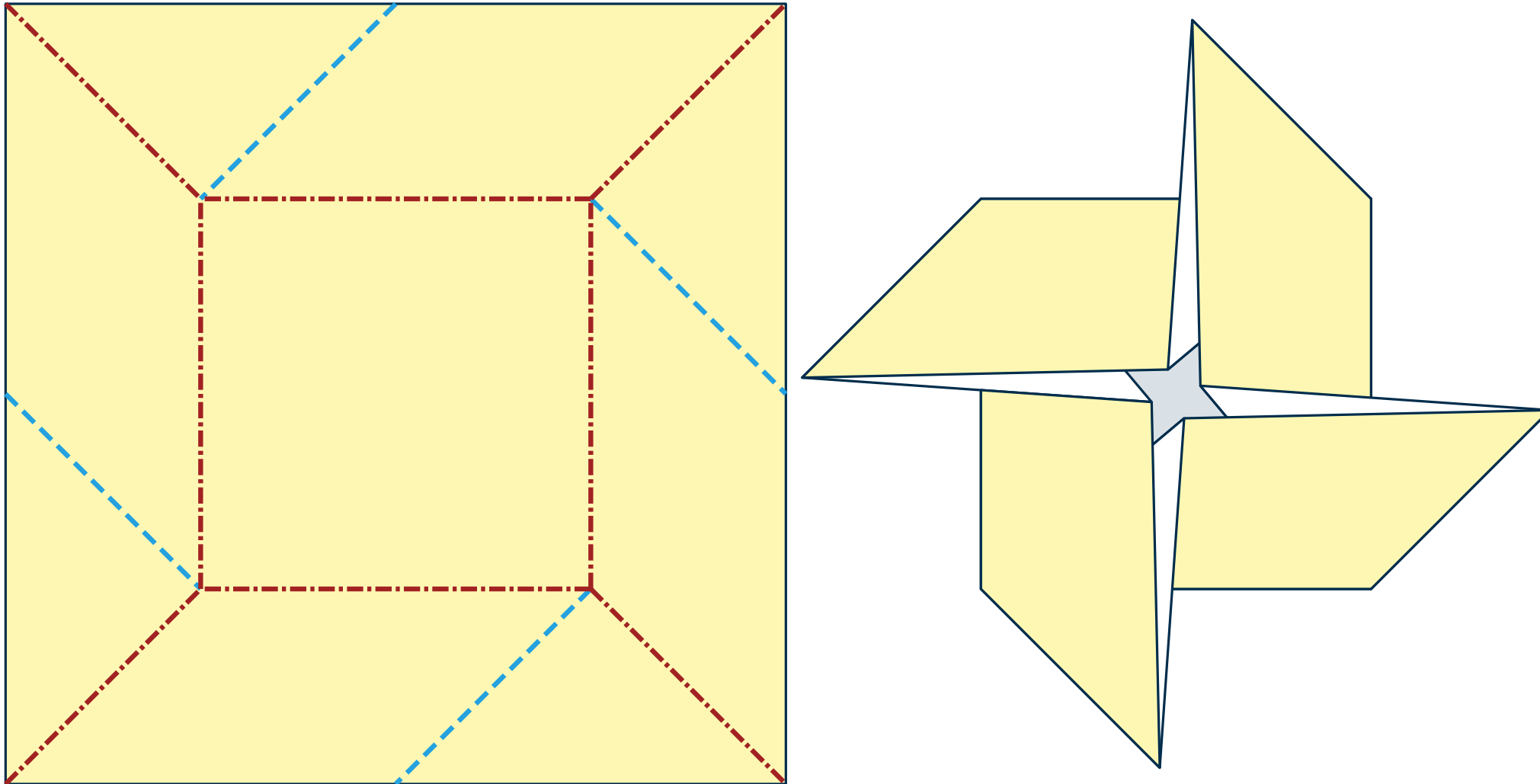
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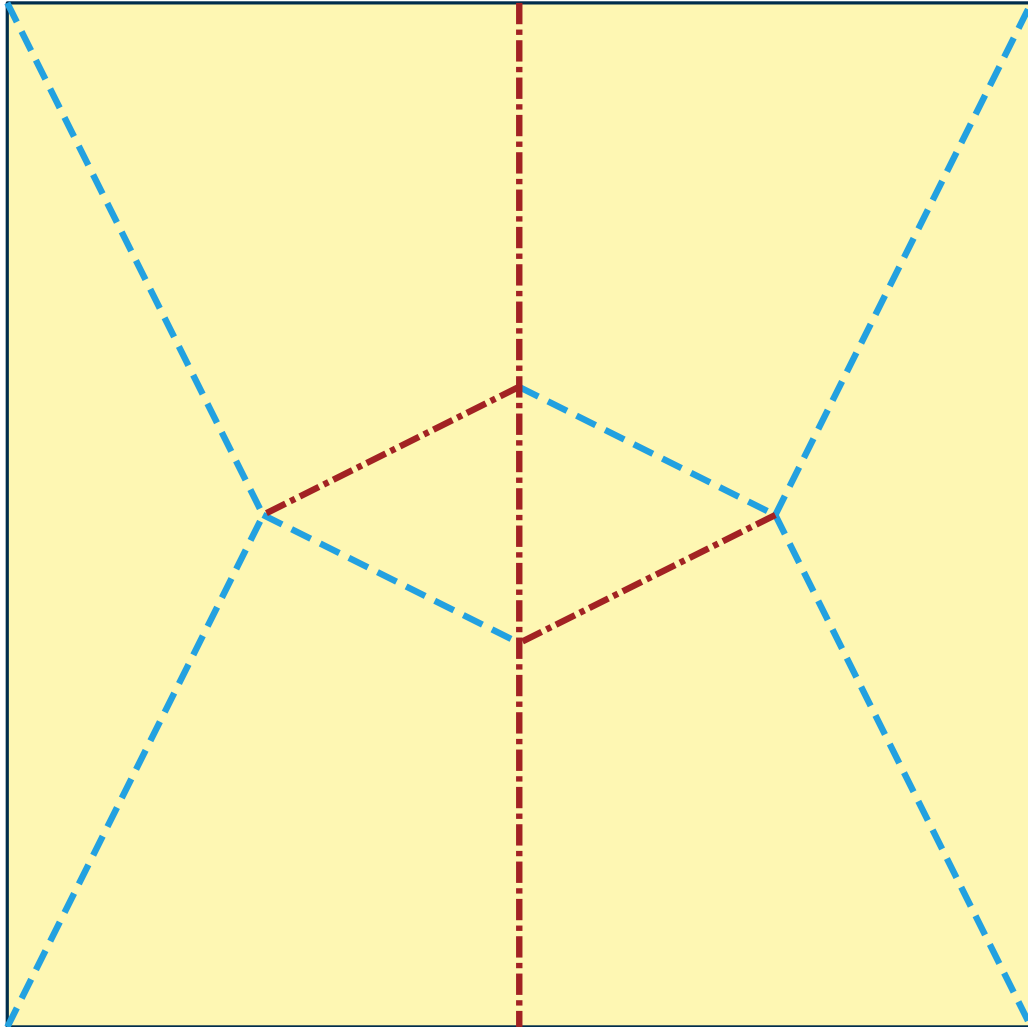
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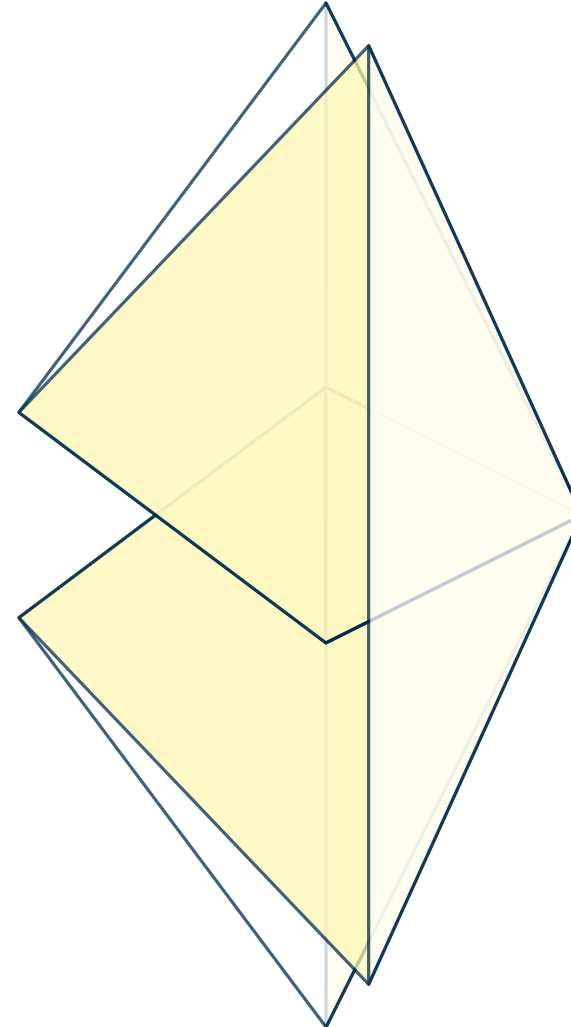
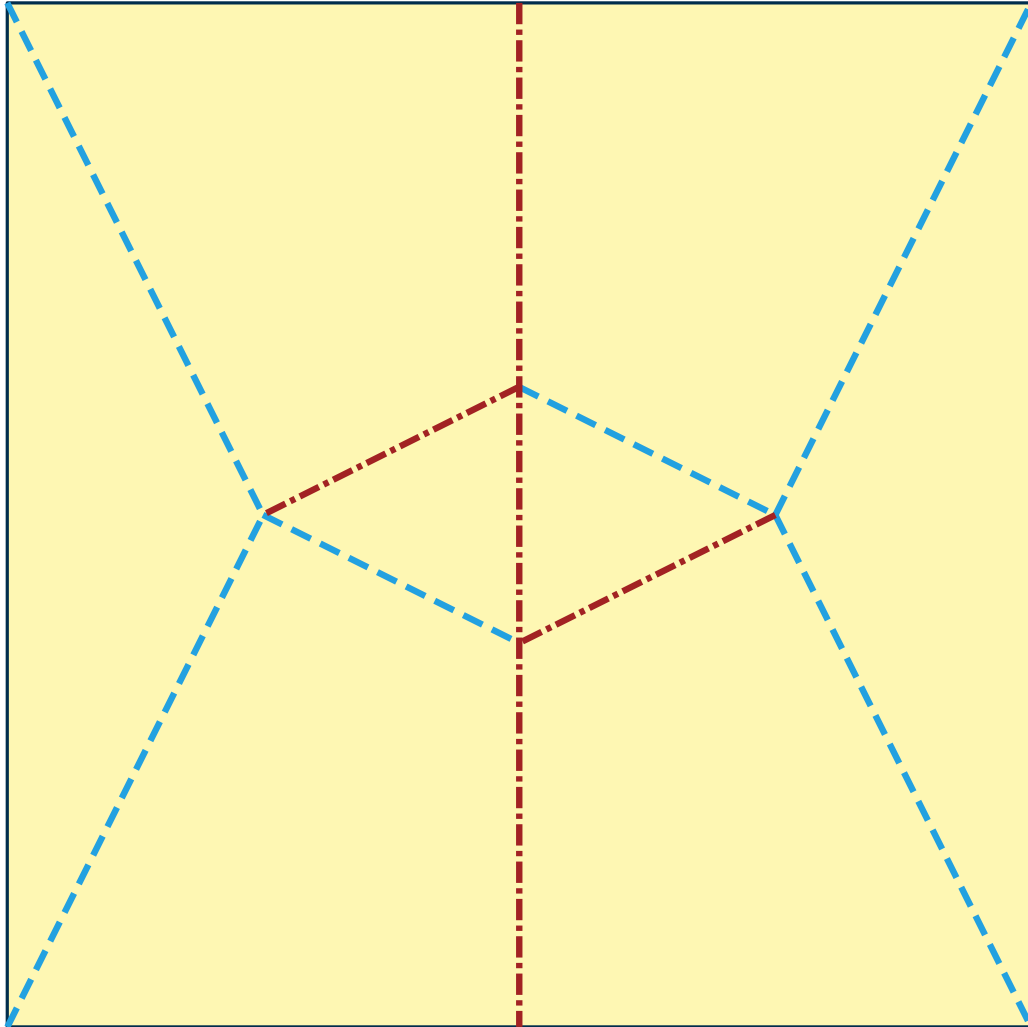
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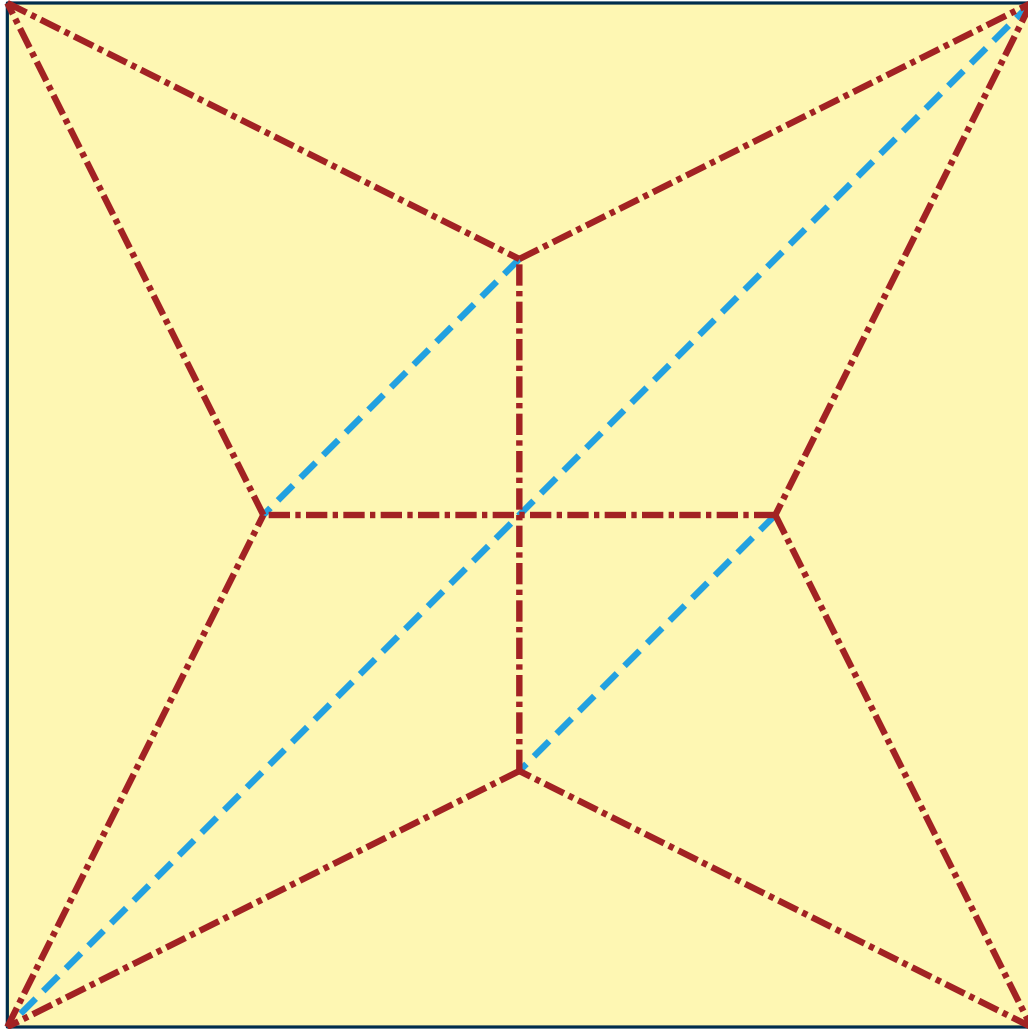
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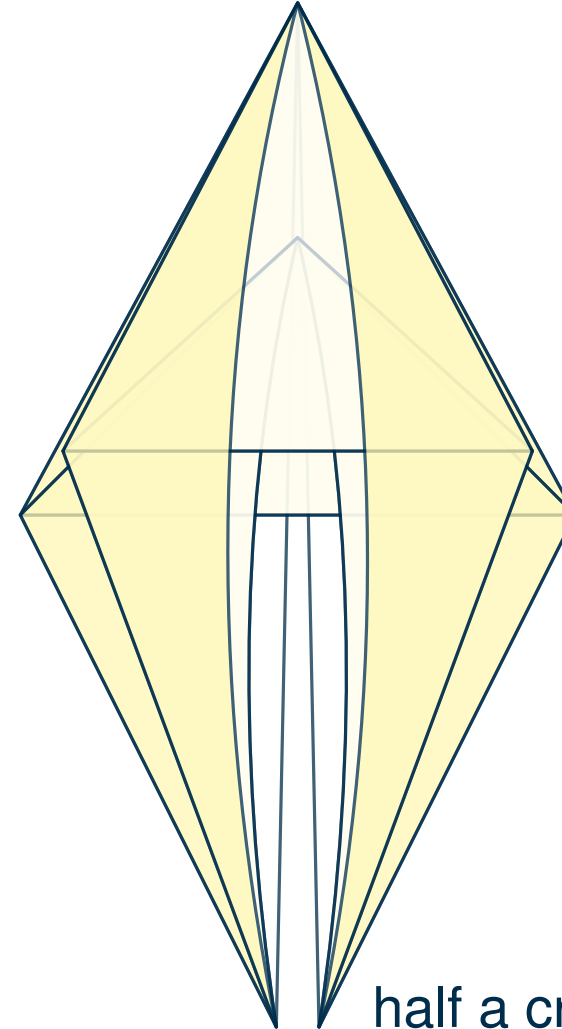
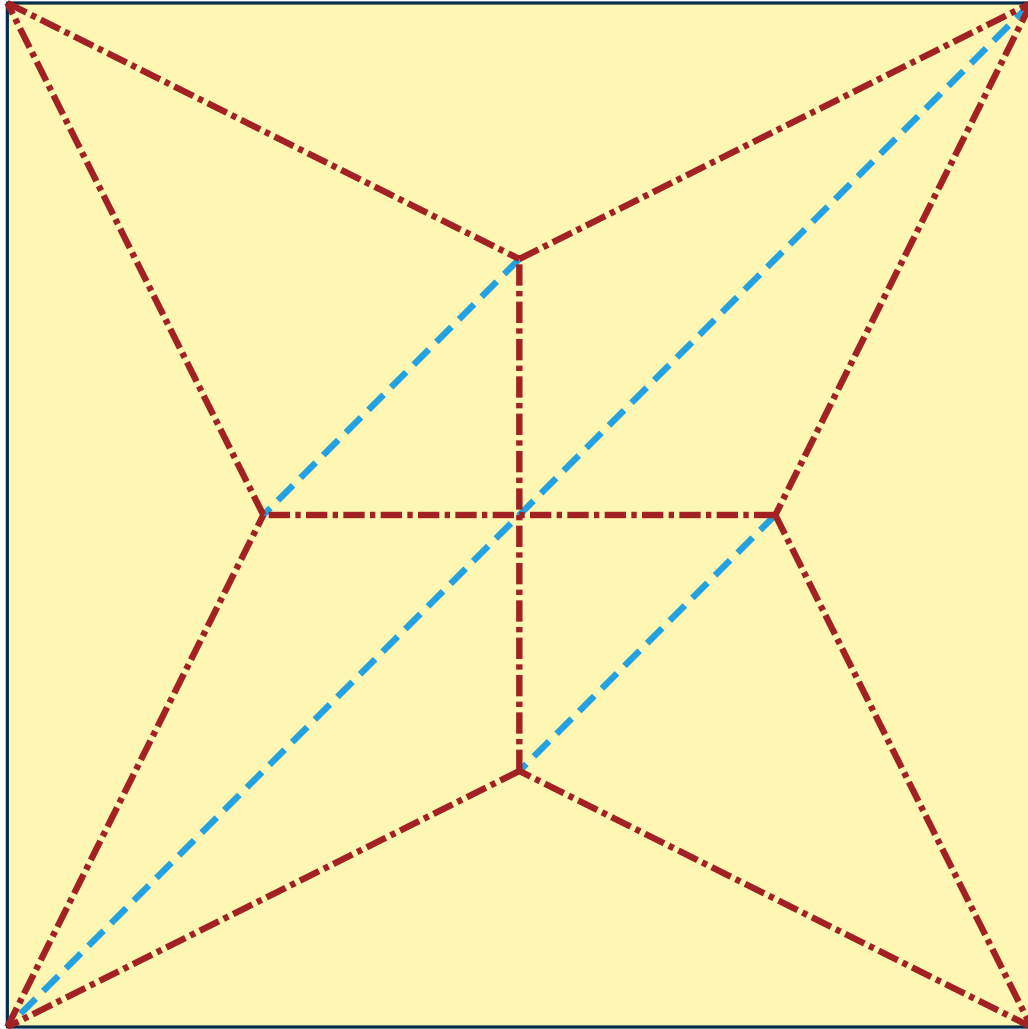
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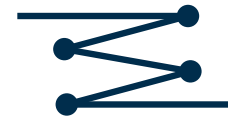
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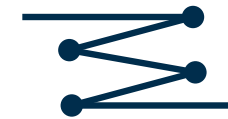
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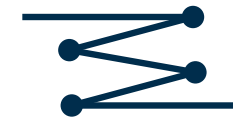
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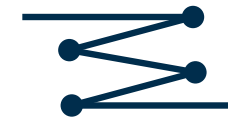
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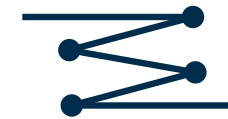
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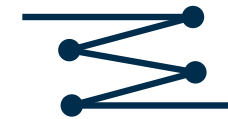
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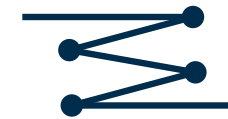
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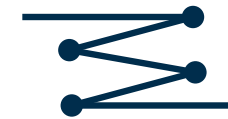
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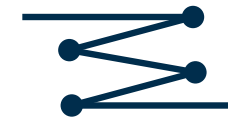
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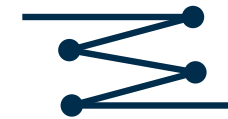
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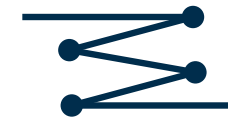
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Reduction Rules

End-Fold

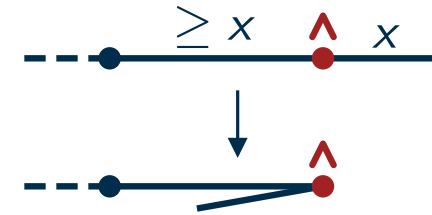
- condition: first/last piece smaller ($\leq$) than neighbor



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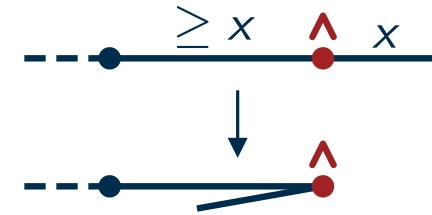
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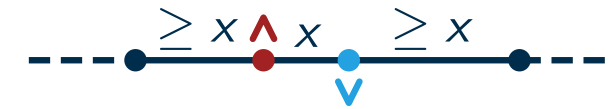
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Crimp

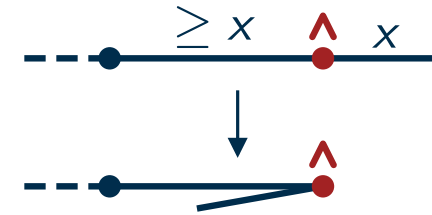
- condition: piece with mountain and valley vertex and larger neighbors



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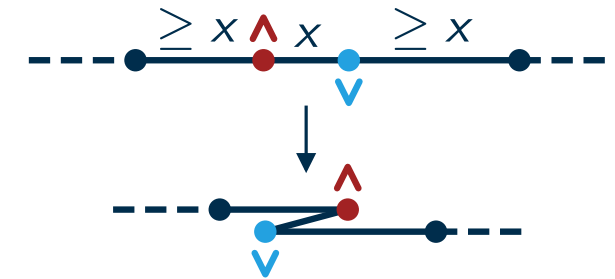
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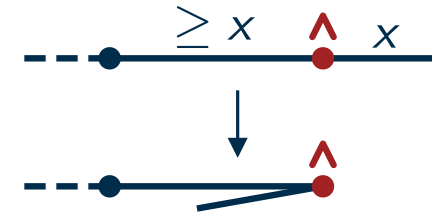
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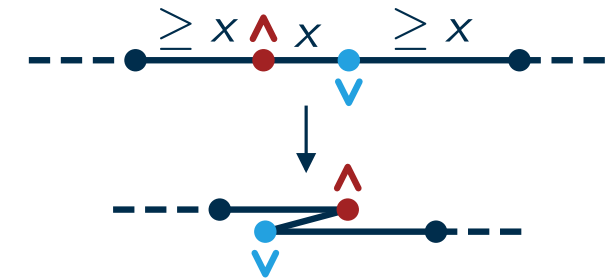
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Lemma

The reduction rules “end-fold” and “crimp” are safe.

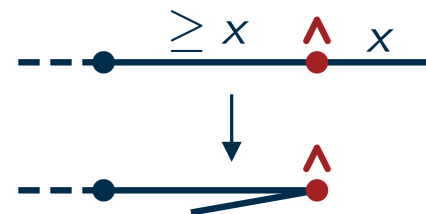
(If a mountain/valley pattern is flat foldable, then it remains flat foldable after applying the reduction rules.)

(Safety first!)

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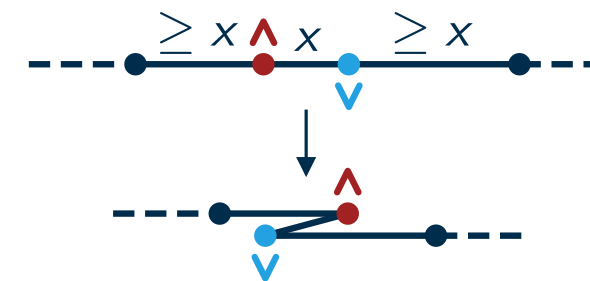
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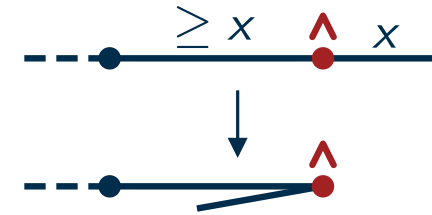
Proof

- **End-Fold:** obvious

Reduction Rules

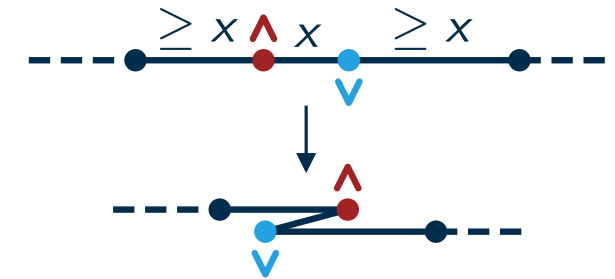
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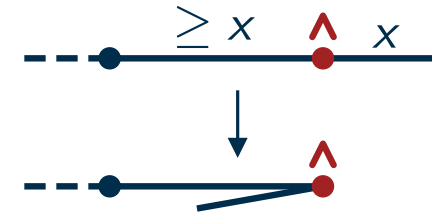
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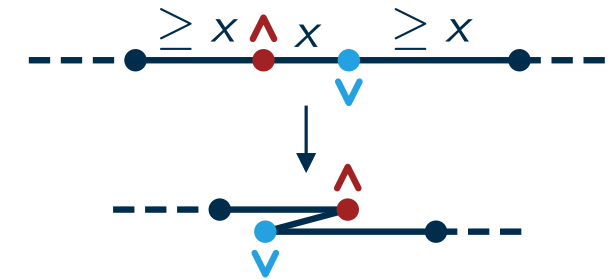
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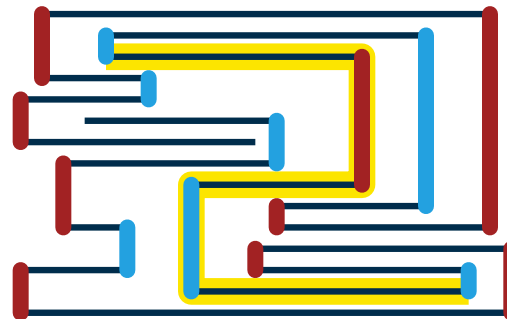
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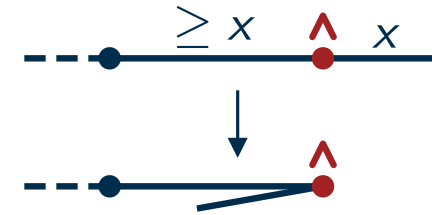
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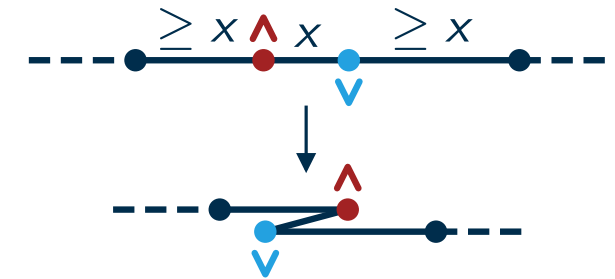
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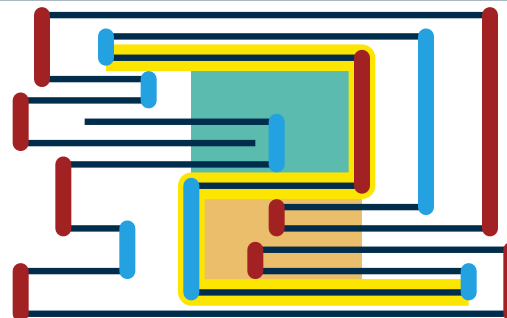
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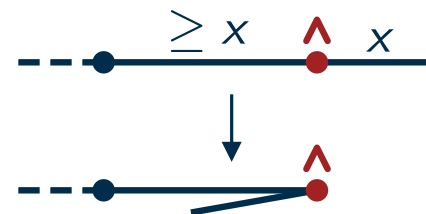
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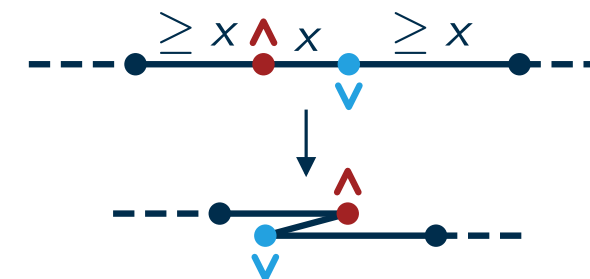
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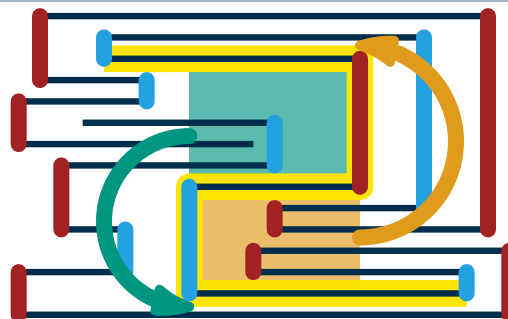
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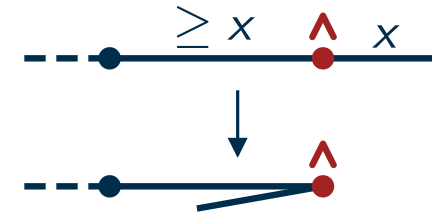
- **End-Fold:** obvious
- **Crimp:** proof by picture



Reduction Rules

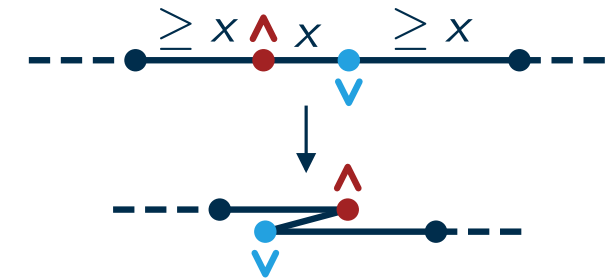
End-Fold

- condition: first/last piece smaller ($\leq$) than neighbor
- reduction: fold first/last vertex



Crimp

- condition: piece with mountain and valley vertex and larger neighbors
- reduction: fold both adjacent vertices



Lemma

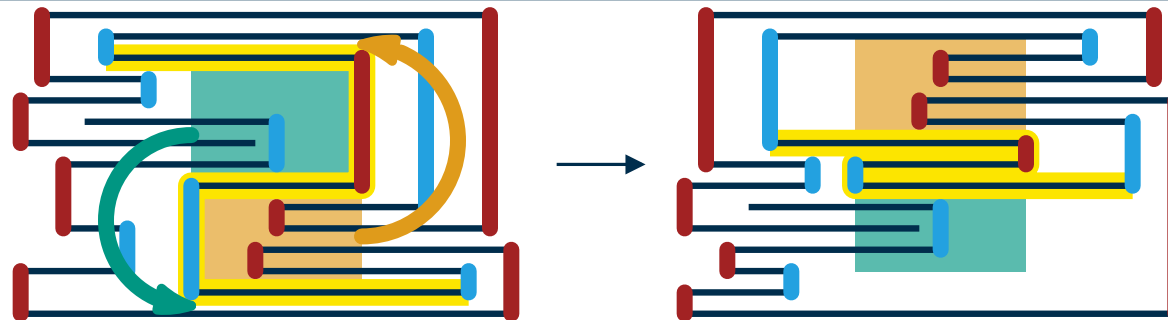
The reduction rules “end-fold” and “crimp” are safe.

(If a mountain/valley pattern is flat foldable, then it remains flat foldable after applying the reduction rules.)

(Safety first!)

Proof

- **End-Fold:** obvious
- **Crimp:** proof by picture



Reductions For The Win

Theorem

(foldable $\Rightarrow$ reduction)

If the mountain/valley pattern is flat foldable, then there is an end-fold or a crimp.

Reductions For The Win

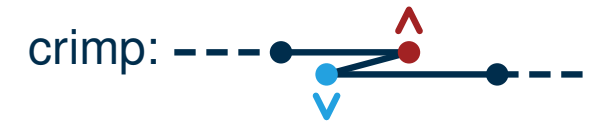
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If the mountain/valley pattern is flat foldable, then there is an end-fold or a crimp.

Proof Plan

- short pieces with one mountain and one valley vertex are good



Reductions For The Win

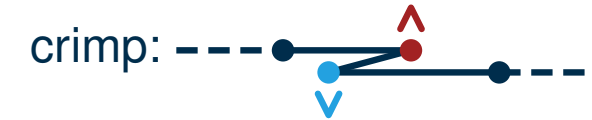
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Proof Plan

- short pieces with one mountain and one valley vertex are good
- consider maximal sequence (wrt inclusion) with only mountain or only valley vertices



Reductions For The Win

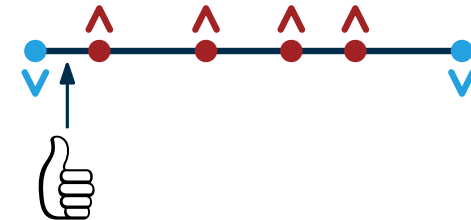
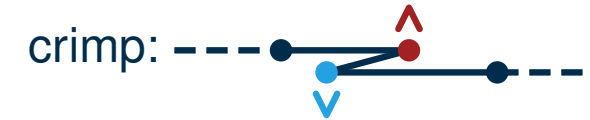
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- left-short: first piece is shorter than second



Reductions For The Win

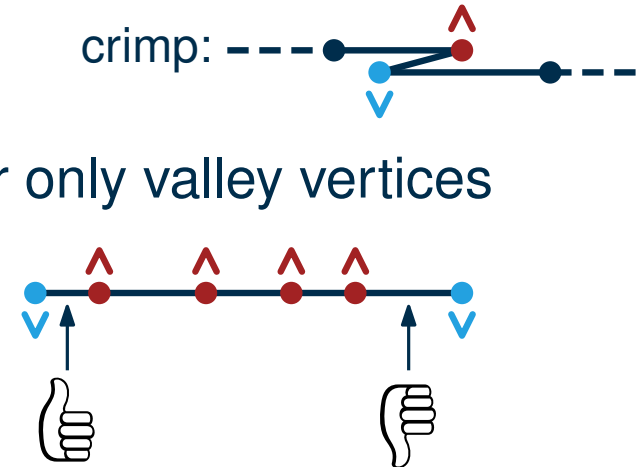
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- right-short: last piece shorter than second-to-last



Reductions For The Win

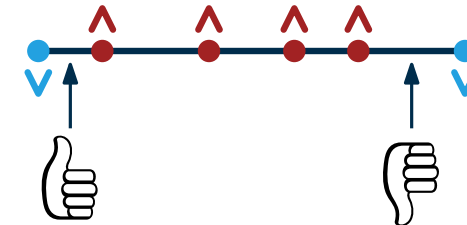
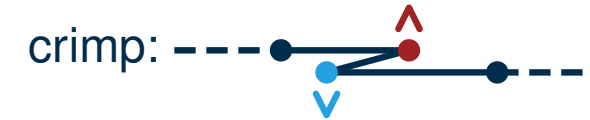
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Lemma (foldable $\Rightarrow$ left/right-short)

flat foldable $\Rightarrow$ each maximal sequence is left-short or right-short

Reductions For The Win

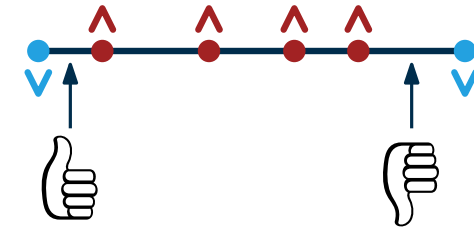
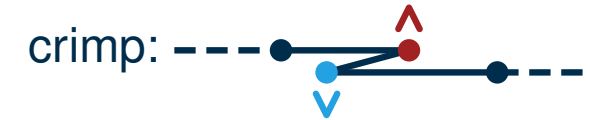
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Lemma (foldable $\Rightarrow$ left/right-short)

flat foldable $\Rightarrow$ each maximal sequence is left-short or right-short

Lemma (left/right-short $\Rightarrow$ reduction)

each maximal sequence is left-short or right-short $\Rightarrow$ there is an end-fold or a crimp

Short Pieces Everywhere

Lemma

(foldable $\Rightarrow$ left/right-short)

flat foldable $\Rightarrow$ each maximal sequence is left-short or right-short

Proof

Short Pieces Everywhere

Lemma

flat foldable $\Rightarrow$ each maximal sequence is left-short or right-short

(foldable $\Rightarrow$ left/right-short)

Proof

- consider maximal sequence that is neither left-short nor right-short



Short Pieces Everywhere

Lemma

flat foldable $\Rightarrow$ each maximal sequence is left-short or right-short

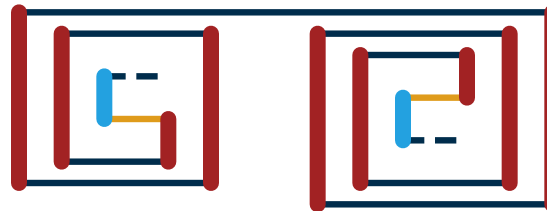
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- consider maximal sequence that is neither left-short nor right-short



- we cannot escape from the spiral



Short Pieces Everywhere

Lemma

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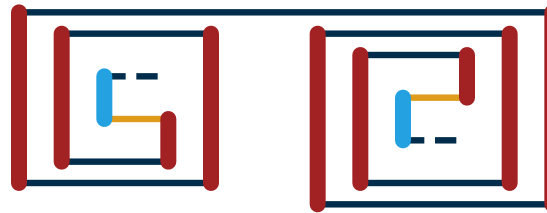
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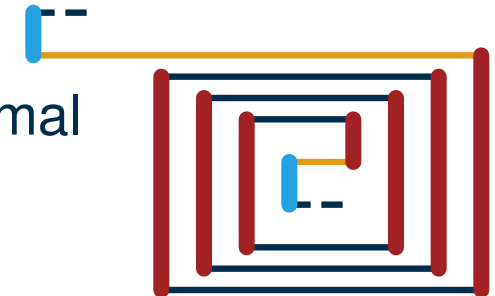
- consider maximal sequence that is neither left-short nor right-short



- we cannot escape from the spiral



- being one of left-short or right-short would be enough (for the maximal sequence in isolation)



There Is Always One More Reduction

Lemma

(left/right-short $\Rightarrow$ reduction)

each maximal sequence is left-short or right-short $\Rightarrow$ there is an end-fold or a crimp

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Proof

- assume for contradiction: no end fold and no crimp

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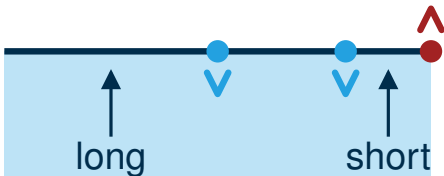
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each maximal sequence is left-short or right-short $\Rightarrow$ there is an end-fold or a crimp

Proof

- assume for contradiction: no end fold and no crimp
- no end-fold $\Rightarrow$ first maximal sequence not left-short $\Rightarrow$ right-short



There Is Always One More Reduction

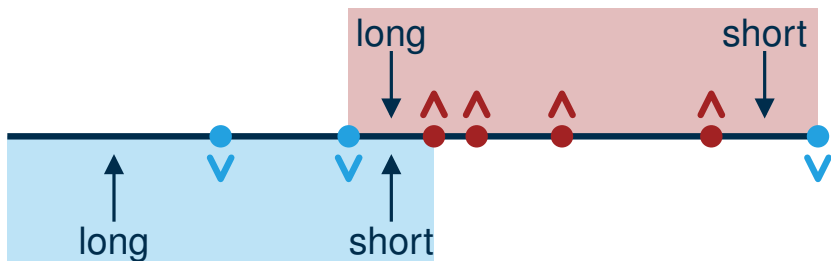
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There Is Always One More Reduction

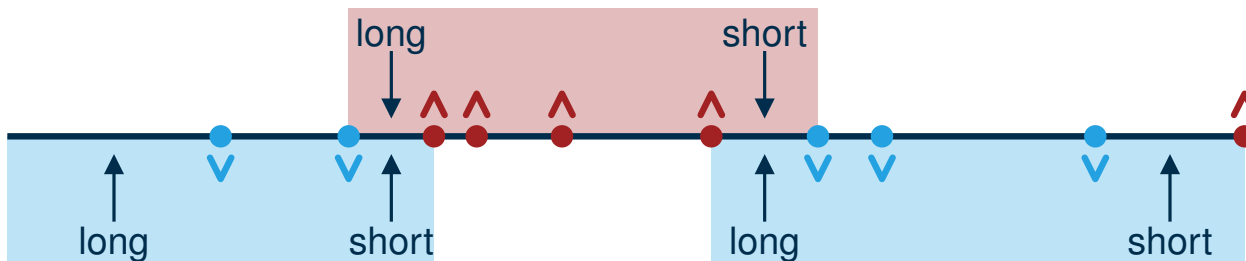
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- no crimp $\Rightarrow$ second maximal sequence not left-short $\Rightarrow$ right-short
- iterate argument $\Rightarrow$ every maximal sequence is right-short



There Is Always One More Reduction

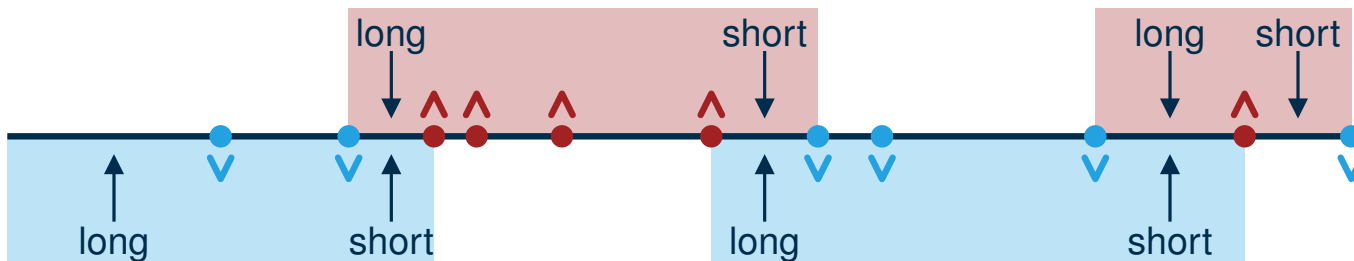
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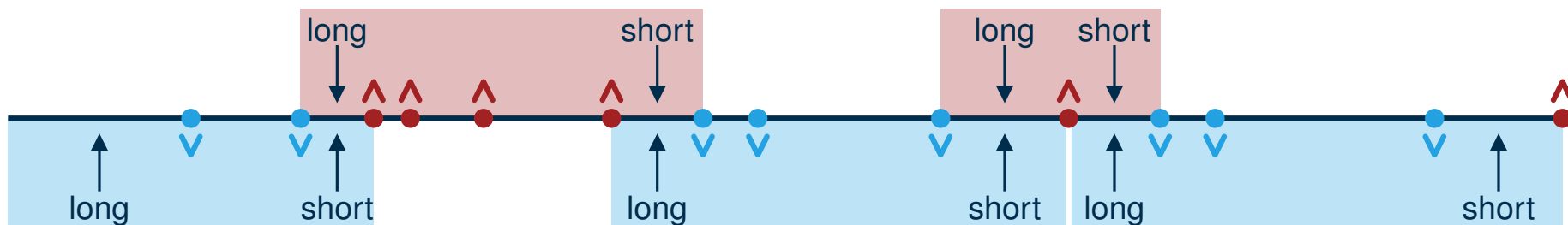
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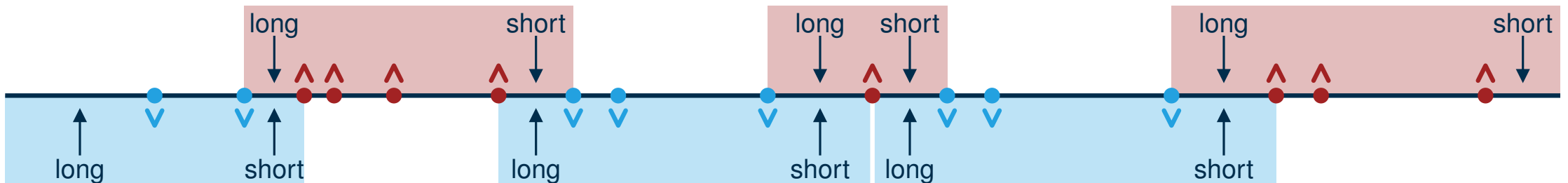
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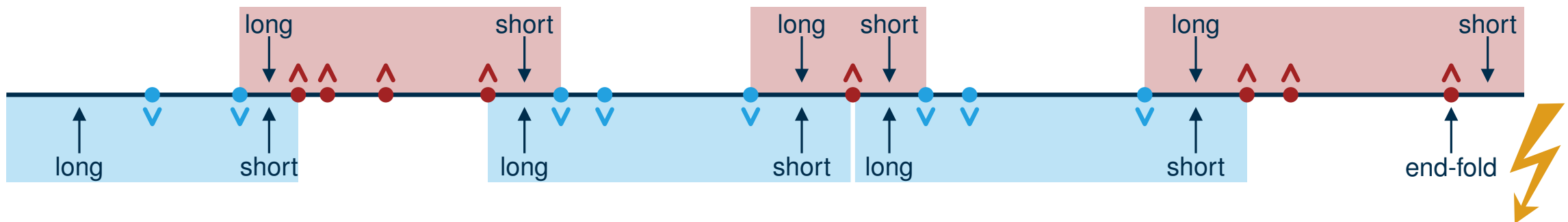
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- iterate argument $\Rightarrow$ every maximal sequence is right-short
- but: this gives an end-fold for the last segment



Wrap-Up: 1D Origami

Lemma

(Safety first!)

The reduction rules “end-fold” and “crimp” are safe.

(If a mountain/valley pattern is flat foldable, then it remains flat foldable after applying the reduction rules.)

Theorem

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Algorithm For Recognizing Flat Foldable 1D Mountain/Valley Patterns

- while there is an end-fold or a crimp, apply an end-fold or a crimp
- result is a flat folding $\Rightarrow$ flat foldable
- result is not a flat folding $\Rightarrow$ not flat foldable

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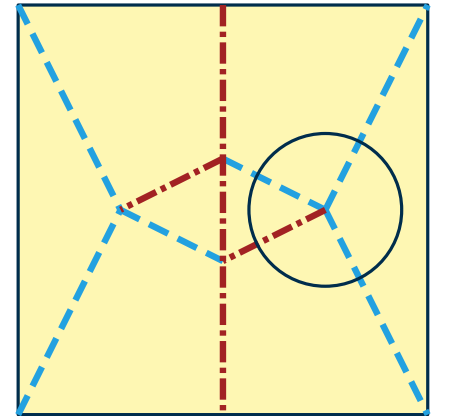
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- running time: $O(n)$ $\rightarrow$ exercise

2D Origami (With Only One Vertex)

Necessary Condition

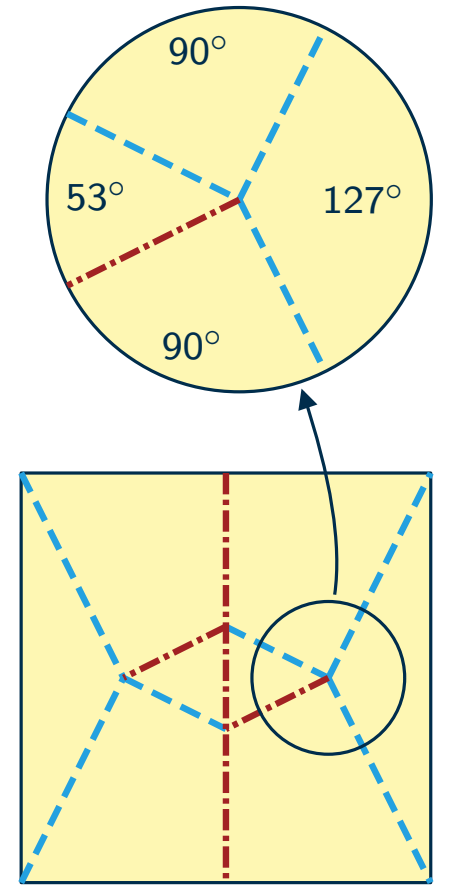
- mountain/valley pattern foldable $\Rightarrow$ each vertex locally foldable



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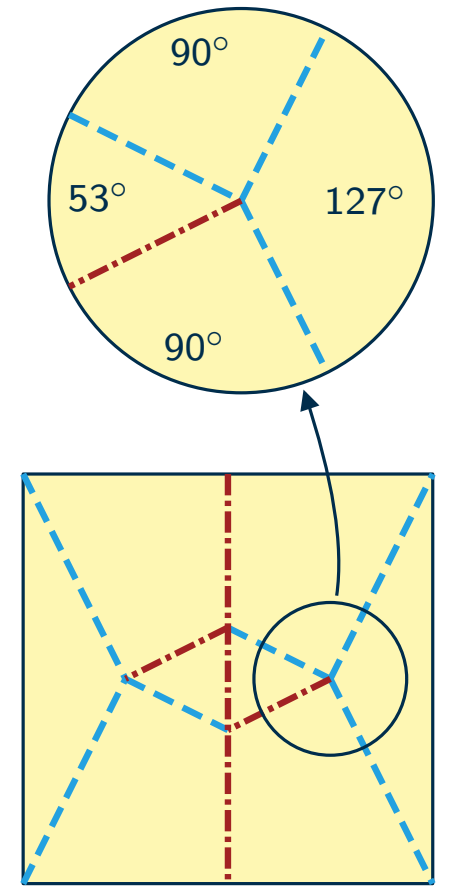
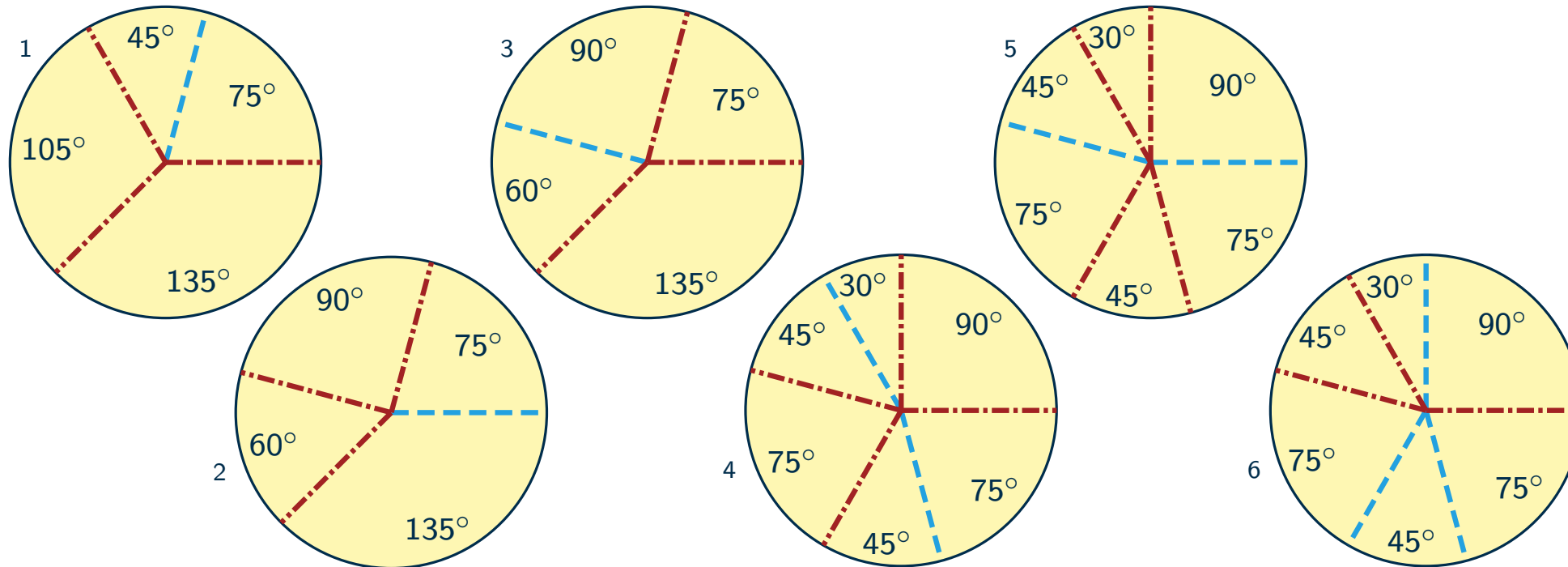
- mountain/valley pattern foldable $\Rightarrow$ each vertex locally foldable
- Which 1-vertex mountain/valley patterns are flat foldable?



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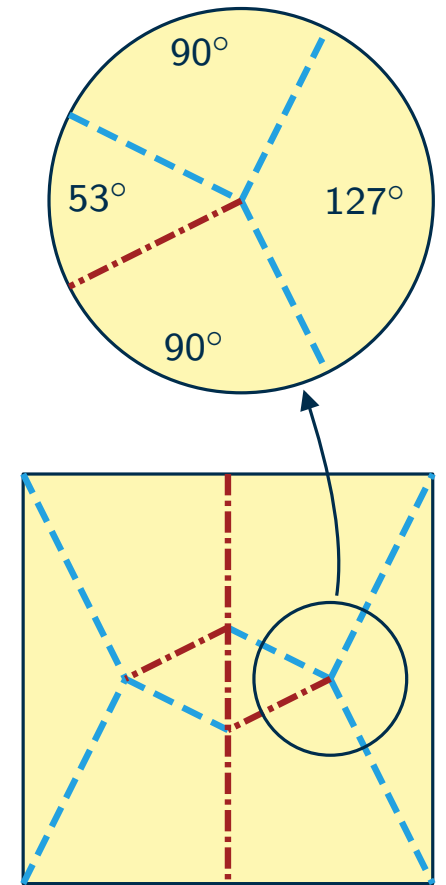
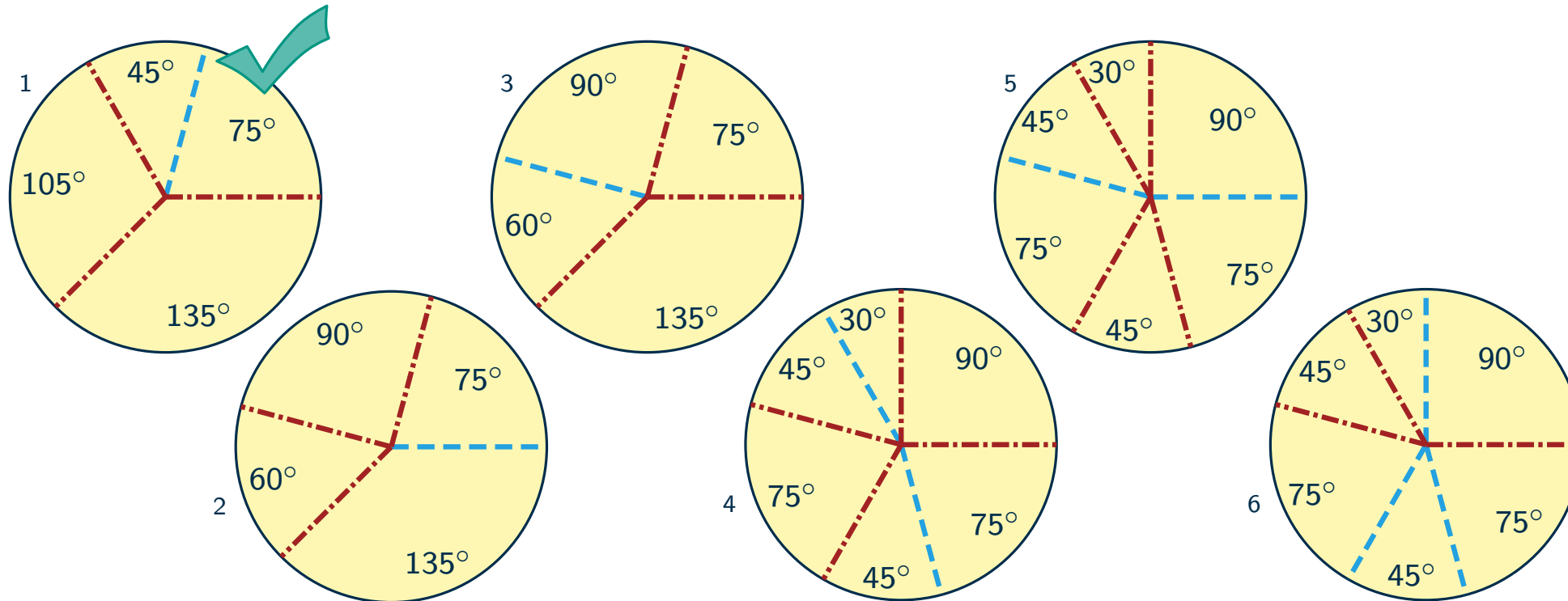
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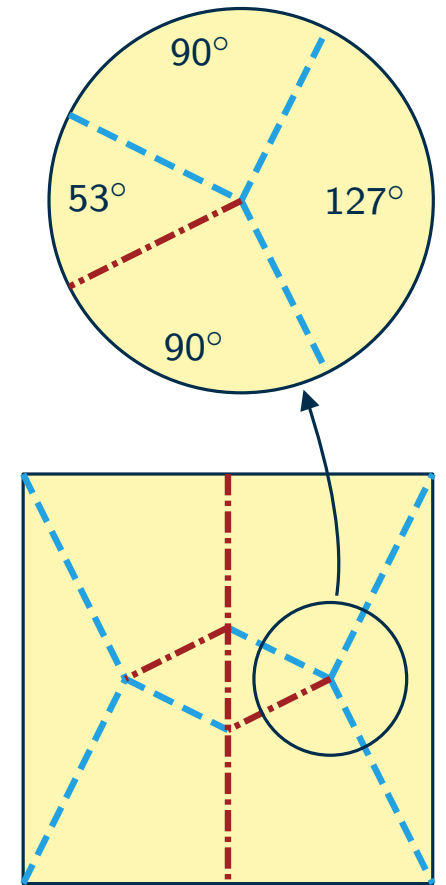
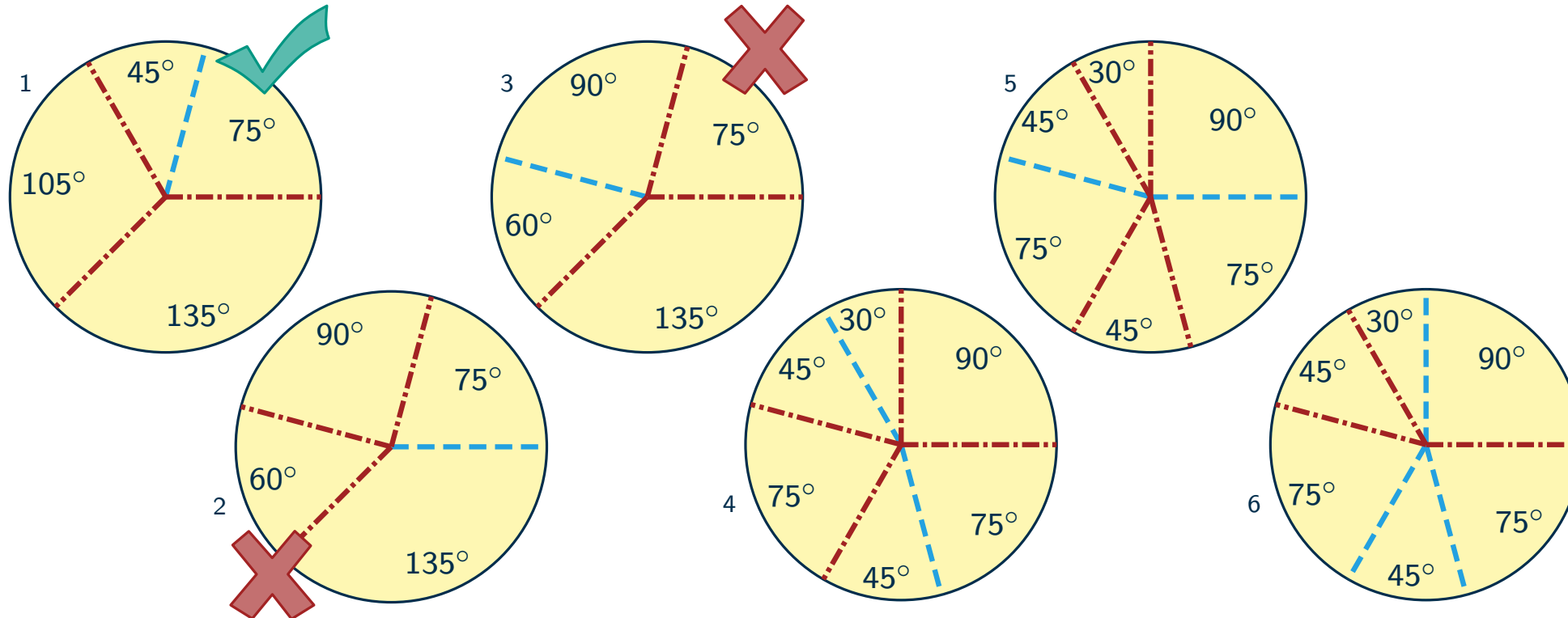
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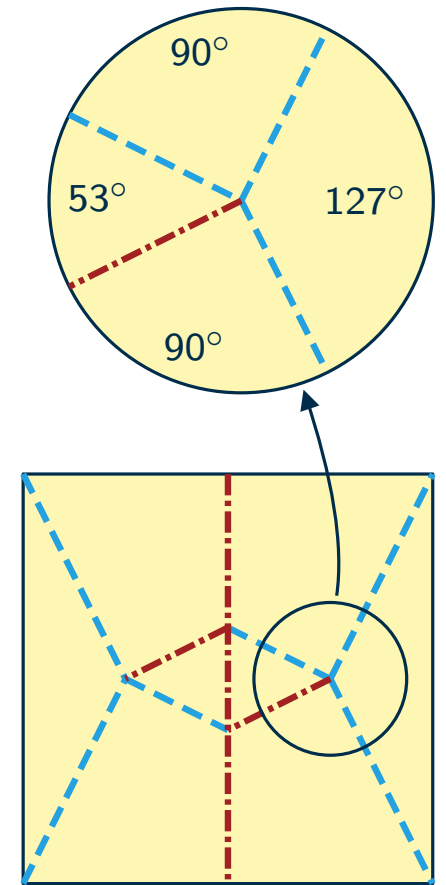
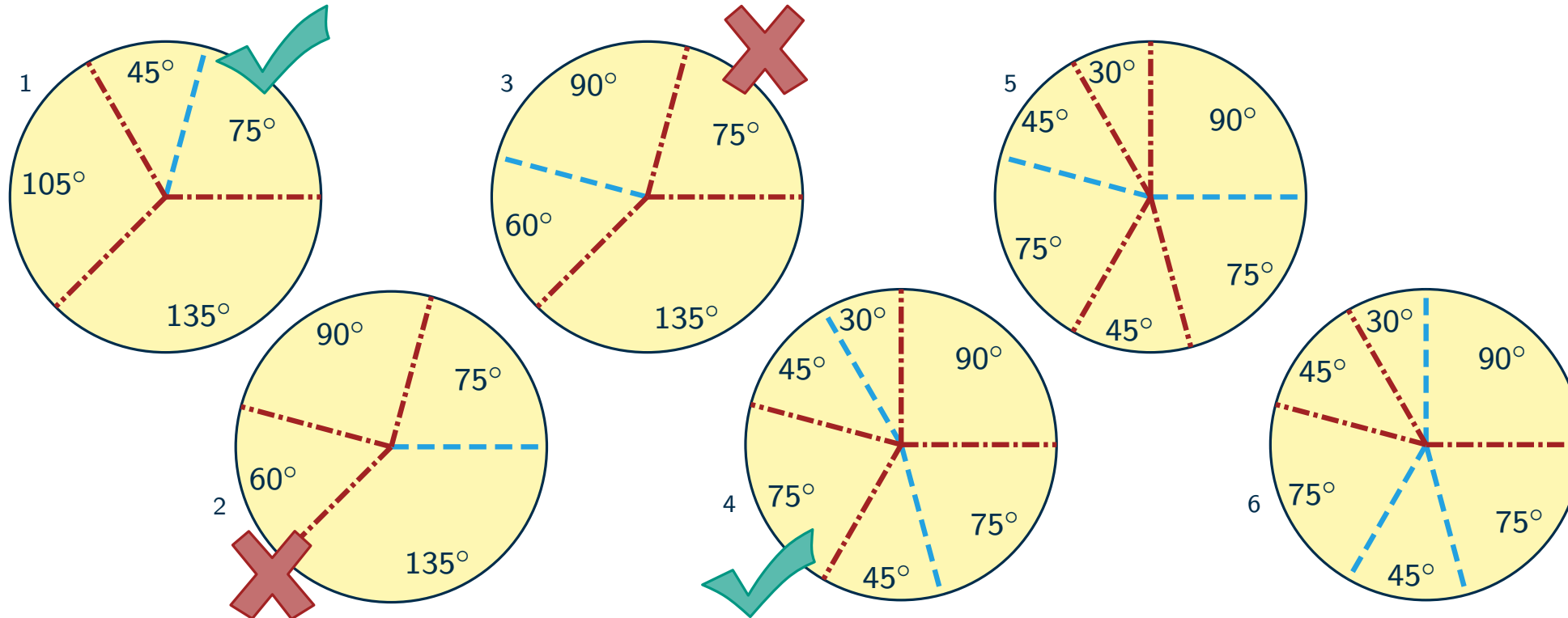
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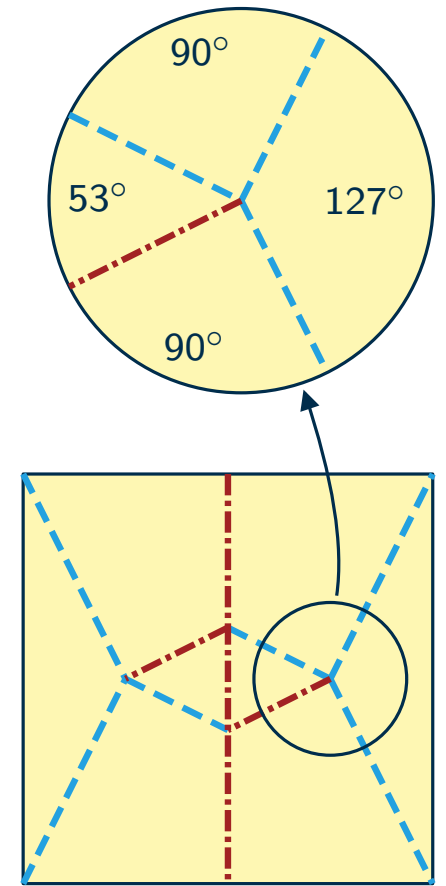
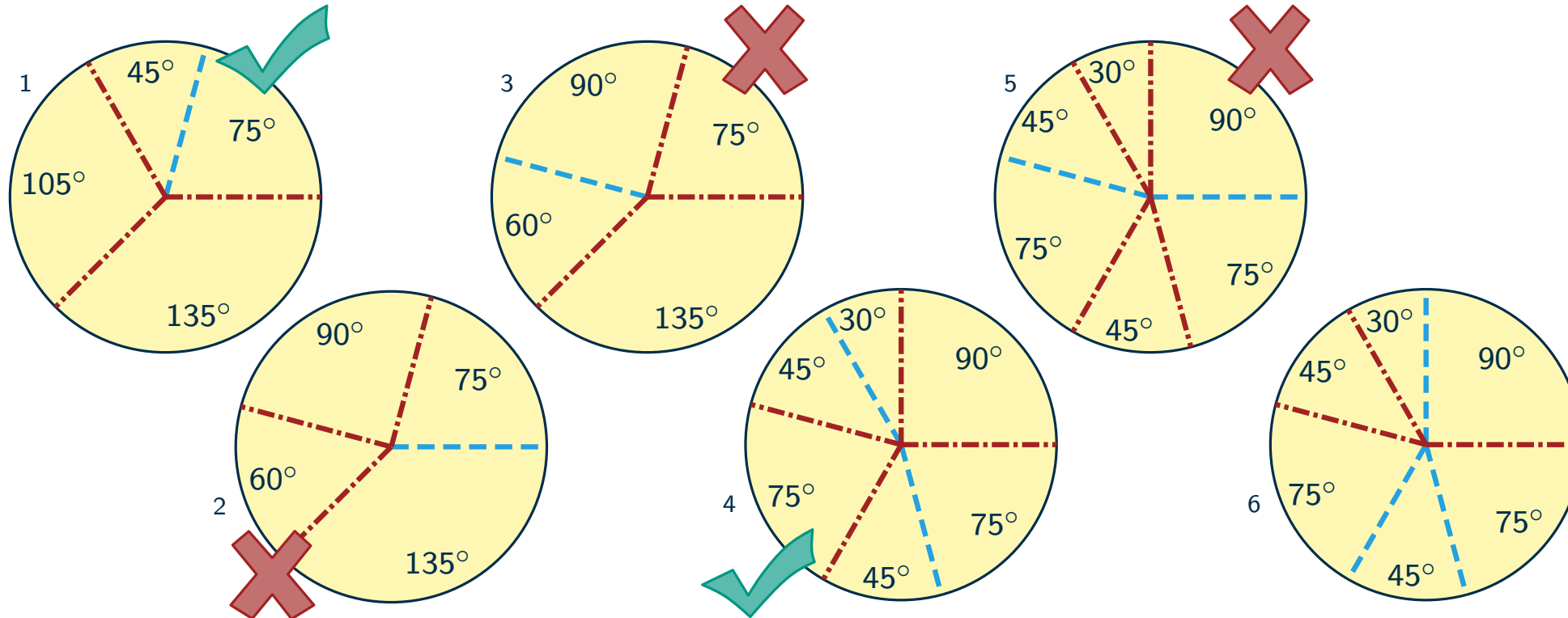
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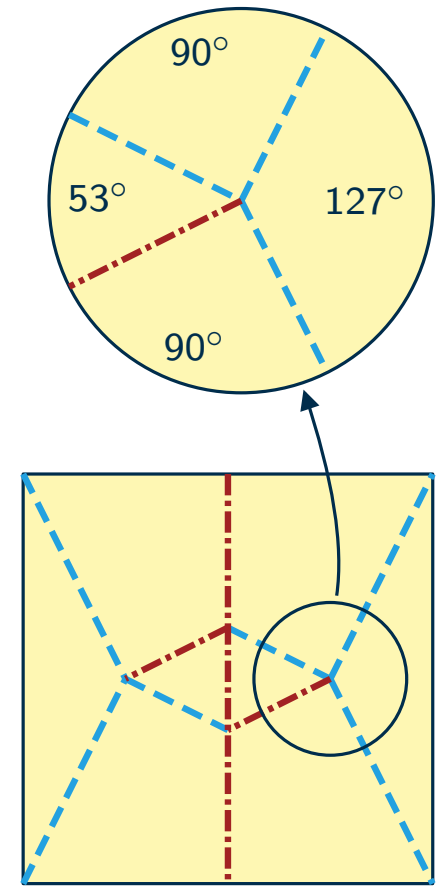
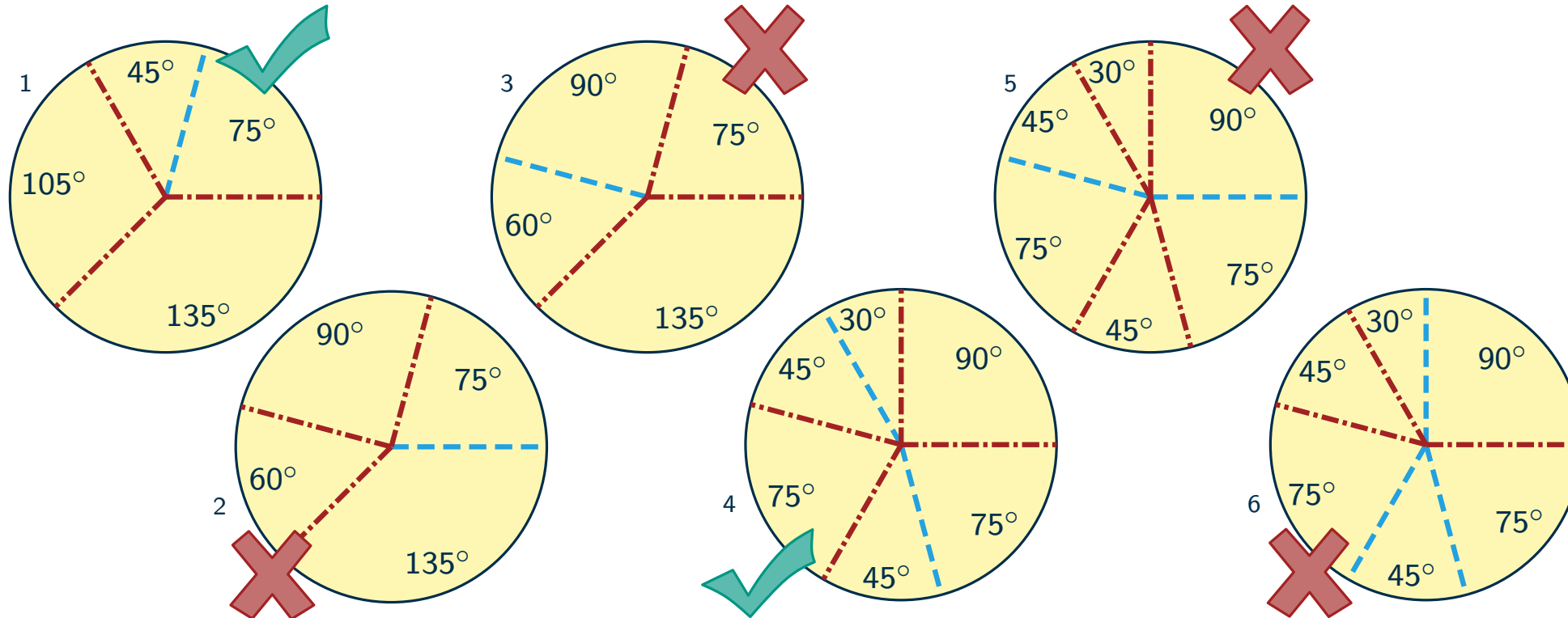
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Crease Patterns With One Vertex

Observations

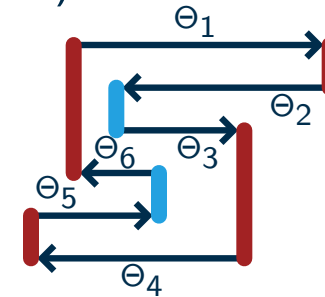
- similarity to 1D-case: sequence of angles $\Theta_1, \dots, \Theta_n$
- now, our paper is a circle, instead of a line segment
- not every crease pattern is flat foldable (in 1D, zig-zag always works)

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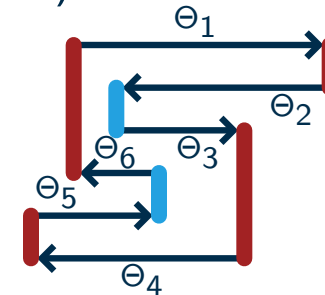
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Necessary Condition For The Crease Pattern

- orientations of the circular arcs alternate $\Rightarrow n$ is even



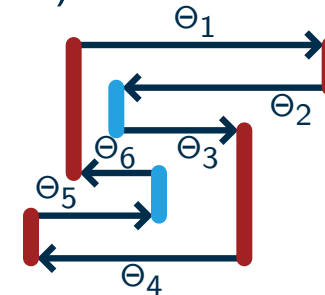
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- orientations of the circular arcs alternate $\Rightarrow n$ is even
- $\Theta_1 + \Theta_3 + \dots + \Theta_{n-1} = \Theta_2 + \Theta_4 + \dots + \Theta_n = 180^\circ$



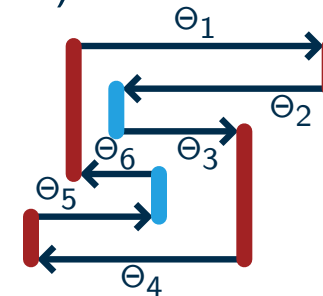
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Theorem

The crease pattern is flat-foldable if and only if the sum of even and odd angles is 180° each.

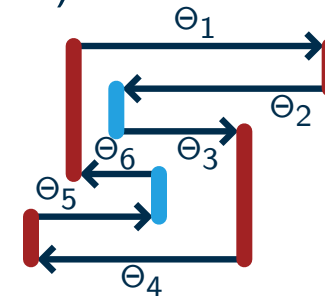
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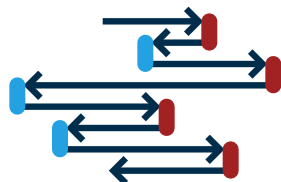


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Proof

1. try zig-zag



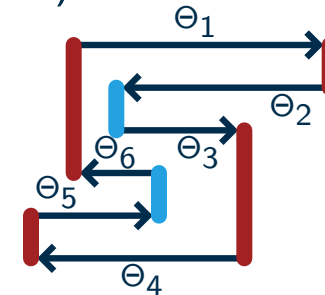
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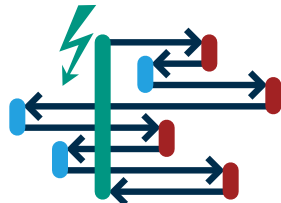


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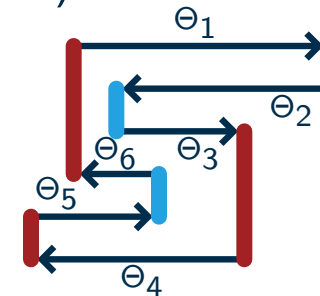
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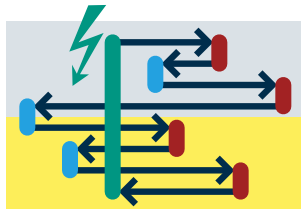


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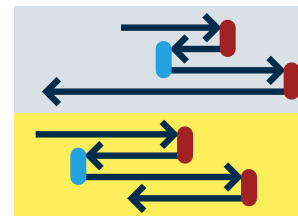
The crease pattern is flat-foldable if and only if the sum of even and odd angles is 180° each.

Proof

1. try zig-zag



2. cut at left-most point



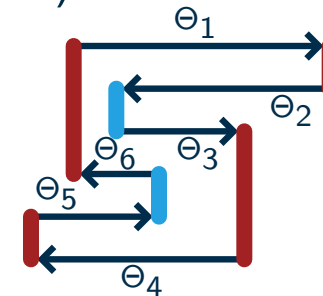
Crease Patterns With One Vertex

Observations

- similarity to 1D-case: sequence of angles $\Theta_1, \dots, \Theta_n$
- now, our paper is a circle, instead of a line segment
- not every crease pattern is flat foldable (in 1D, zig-zag always works)

Necessary Condition For The Crease Pattern

- orientations of the circular arcs alternate $\Rightarrow n$ is even
- $\Theta_1 + \Theta_3 + \dots + \Theta_{n-1} = \Theta_2 + \Theta_4 + \dots + \Theta_n = 180^\circ$

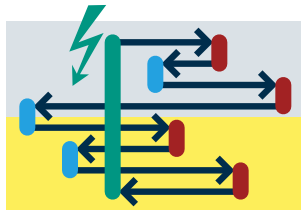


Theorem

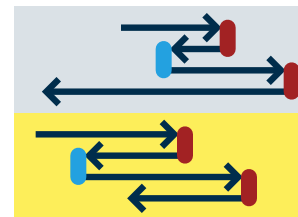
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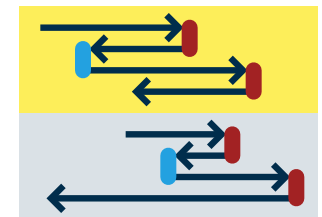
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2. cut at left-most point



3. swap order



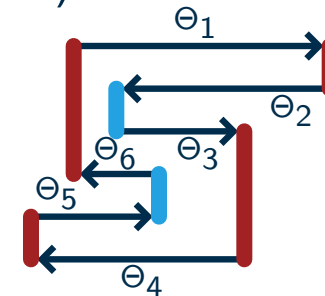
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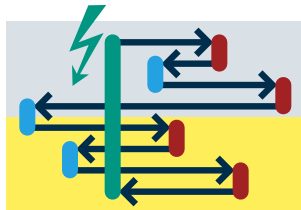


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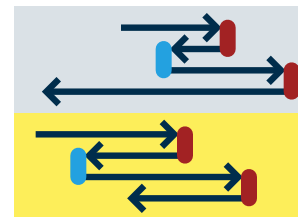
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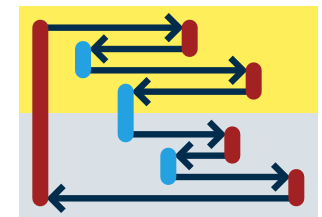
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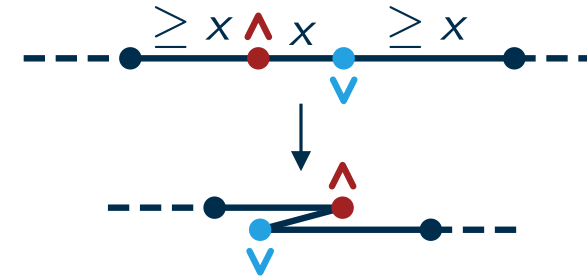
3. swap order
4. reconnect



Mountain/Valley Patterns With Only One Vertex

Safe Reduction Rule

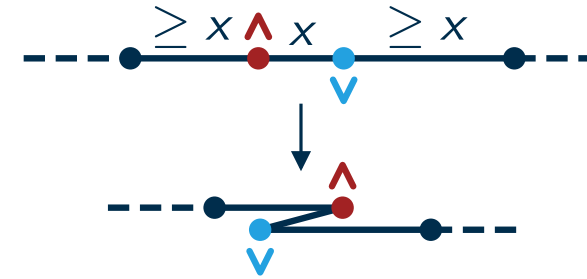
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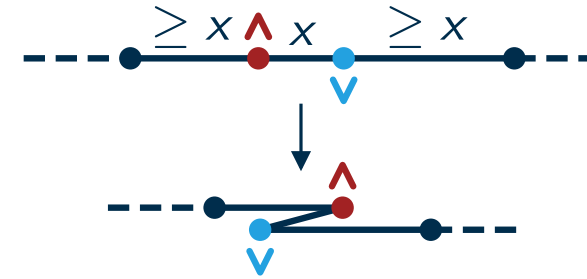
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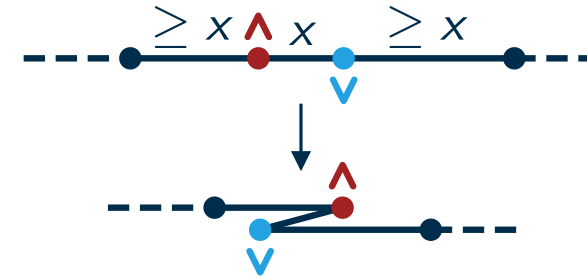
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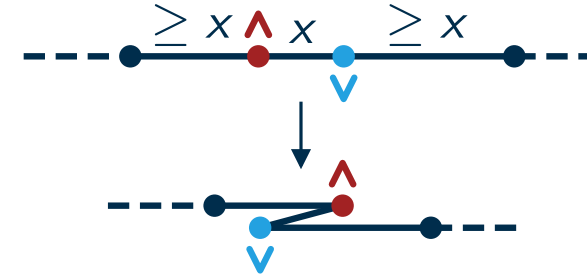
Flat Foldable $\Rightarrow$ Crimp

- is still true, except if there are only two angles of equal size (in which case we are done)

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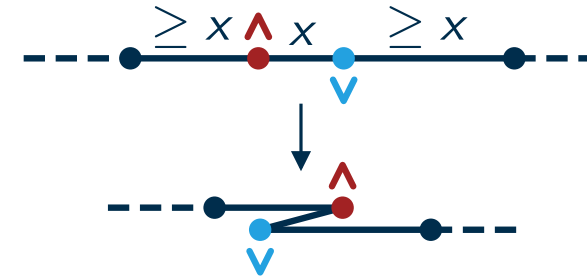
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If a mountain/valley pattern with one vertex is flat foldable, then there is a crimp and every sequence of crimps yields a flat folding.

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Bonus Observation: flat foldable $\Rightarrow$ $\# \text{mountains} - \# \text{valleys} = \pm 2$

Wrap-Up

Seen Today

- 1D crease pattern: always flat foldable (zig-zag)
- 1D mountain/valley pattern: flat foldable $\Rightarrow$ safe reduction rule crimp or end-fold applicable

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- check if a crease pattern is flat foldable: NP-hard

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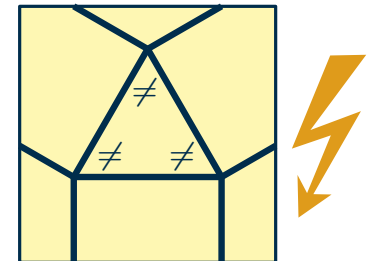
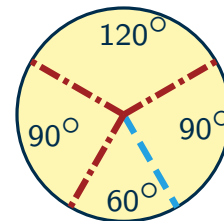
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- 2D 1-vertex mountain/valley pattern: flat foldable $\Rightarrow$ safe reduction rule crimp applicable

What Else Is There?

- check if a crease pattern is flat foldable: NP-hard
- check if mountain/valley-pattern is flat foldable: NP-hard
- local foldability: $O(n)$
(find mountain/valley assignment, such that each vertex alone is flat foldable)



What Else Is There?

Origami everything is foldable (for different definitions of “everything”)



What Else Is There?

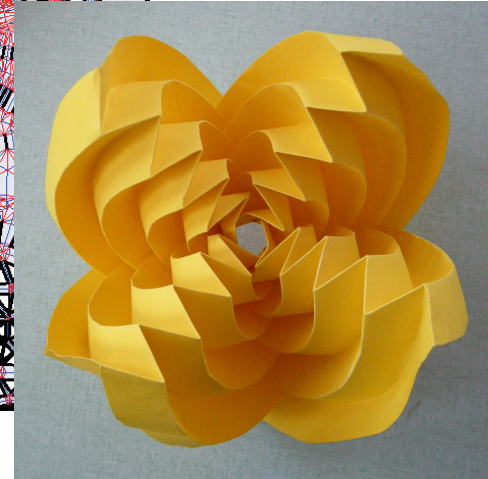
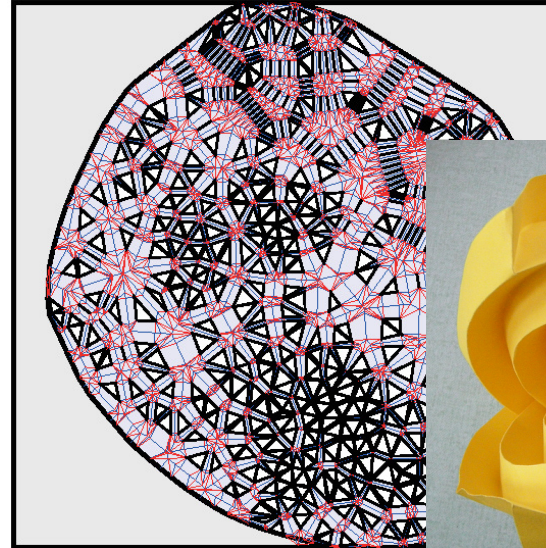
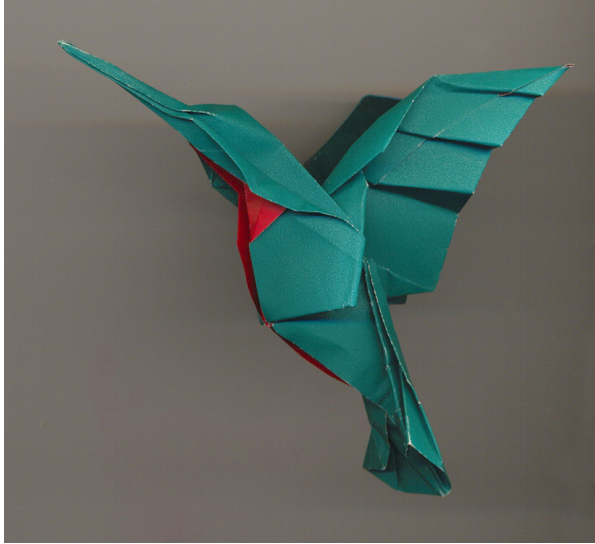
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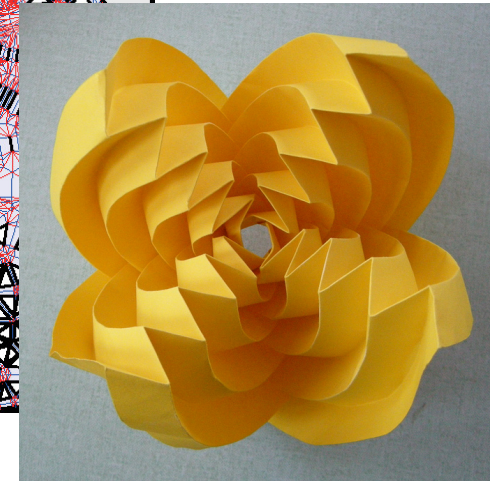
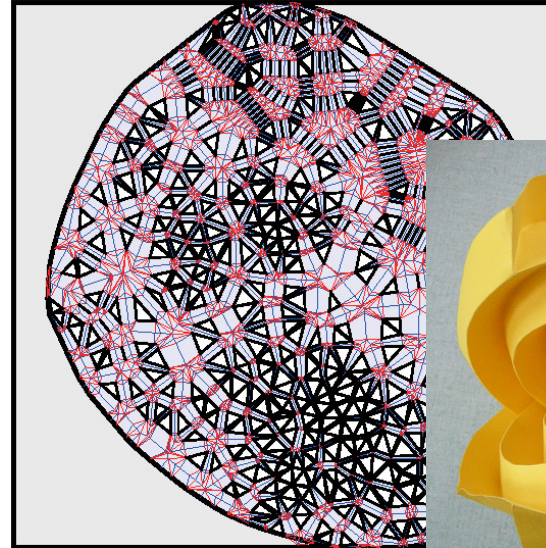
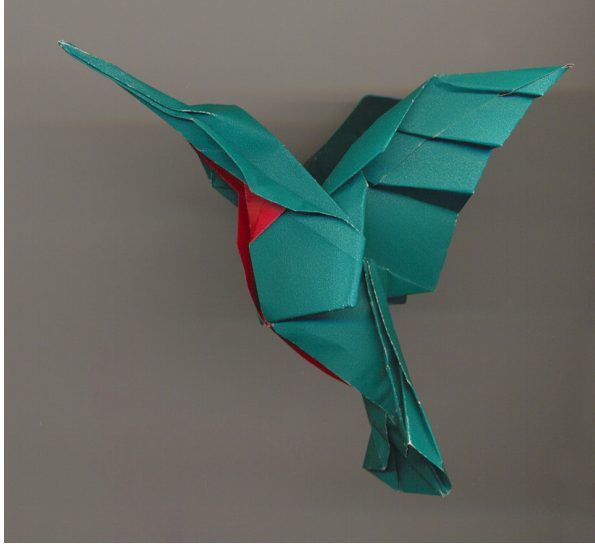
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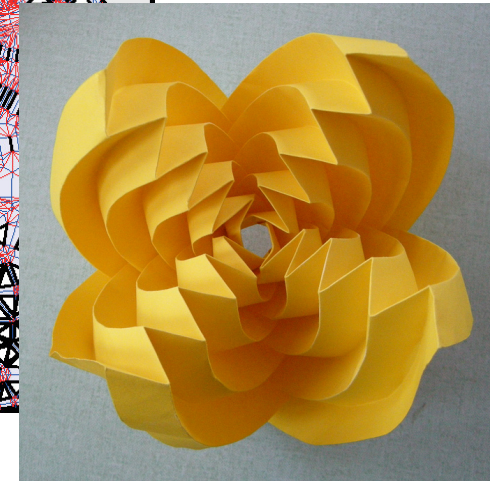
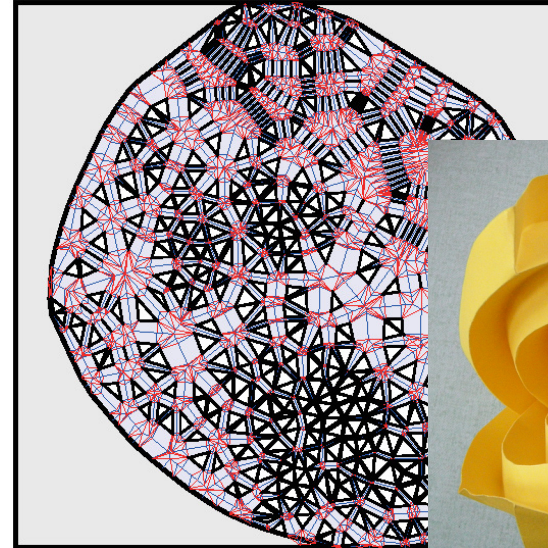
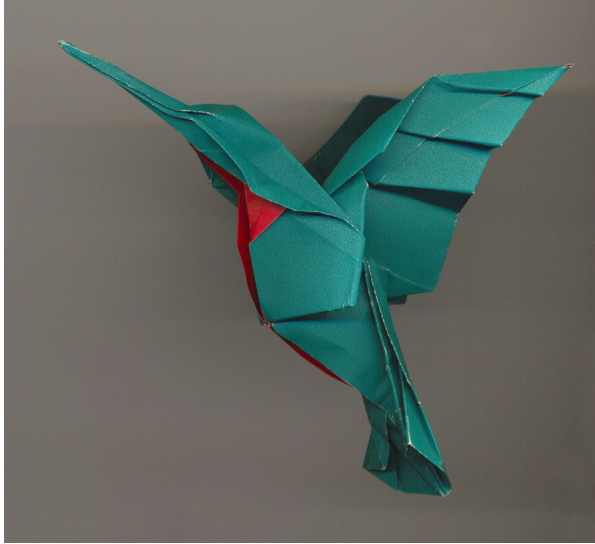


1D-Linkages

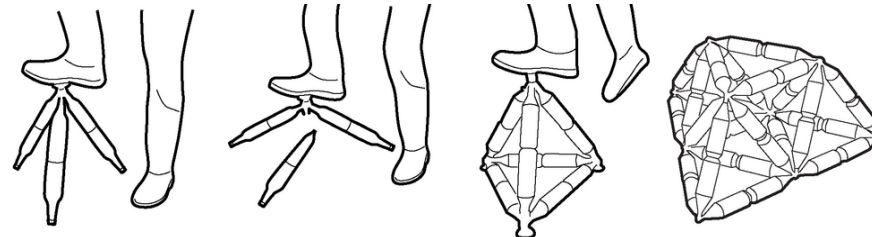


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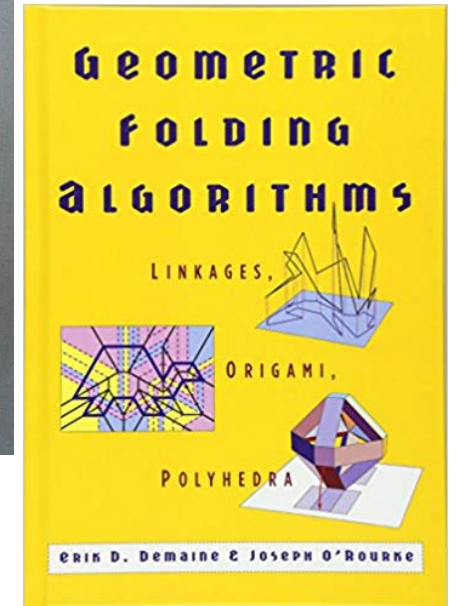
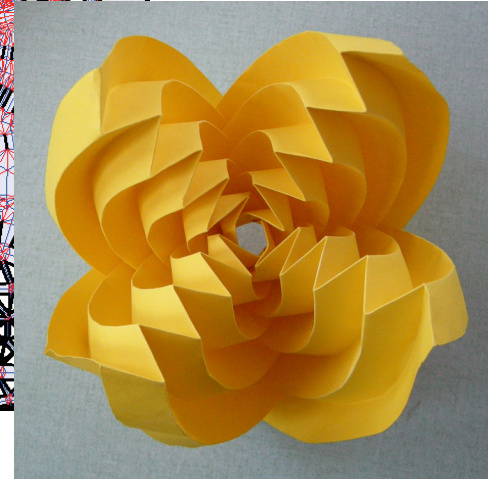
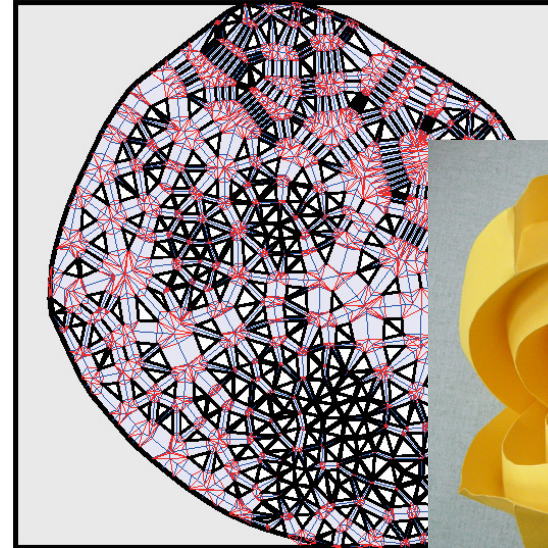
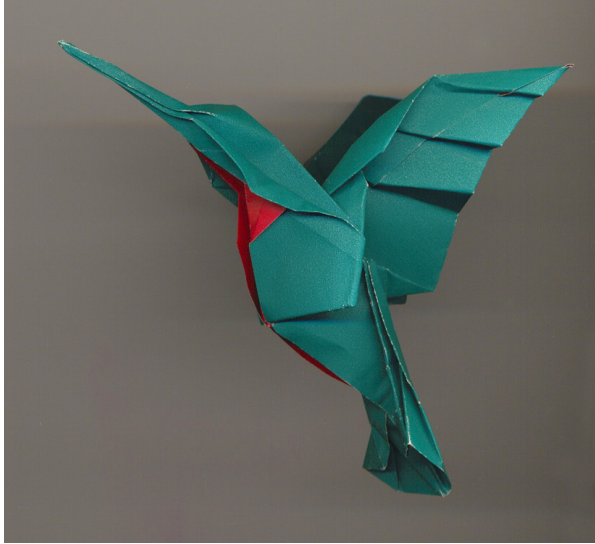


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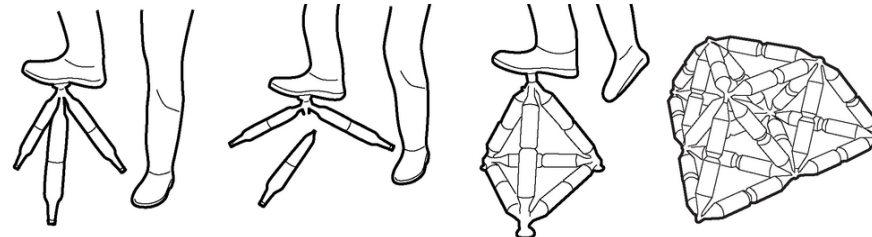


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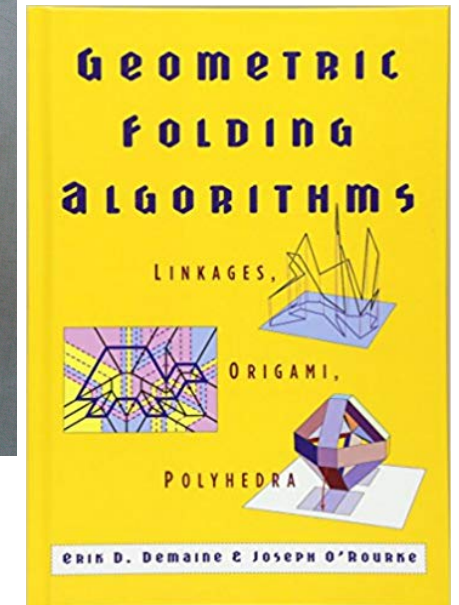
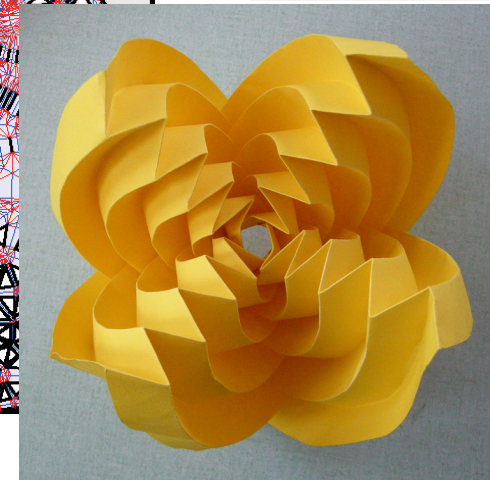
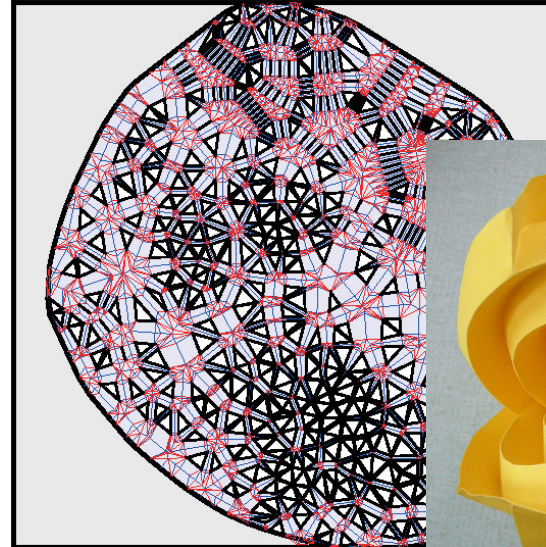
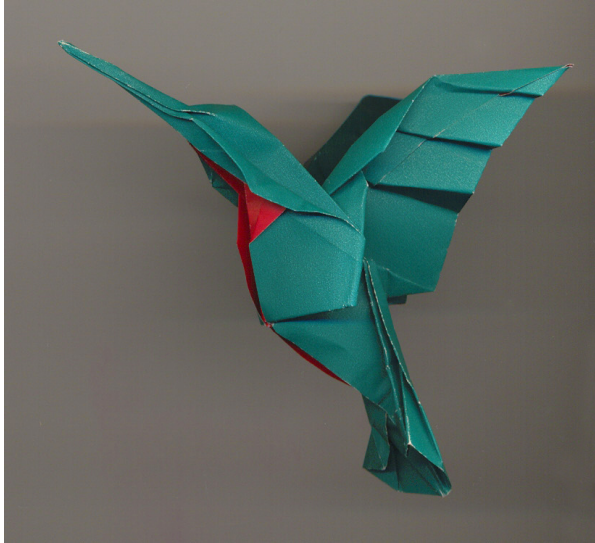
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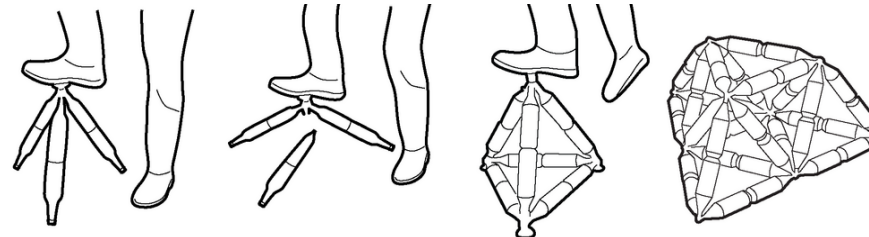
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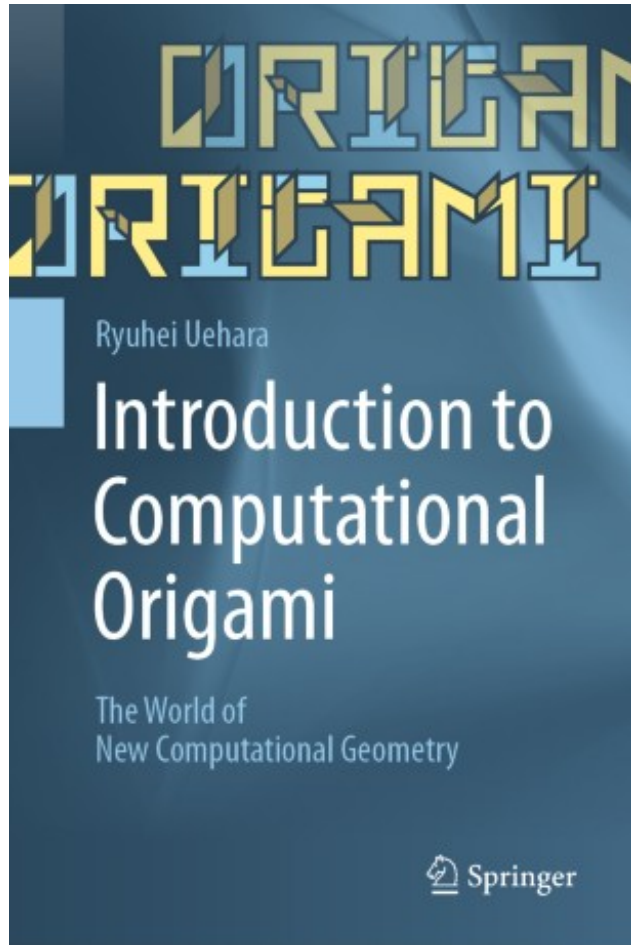


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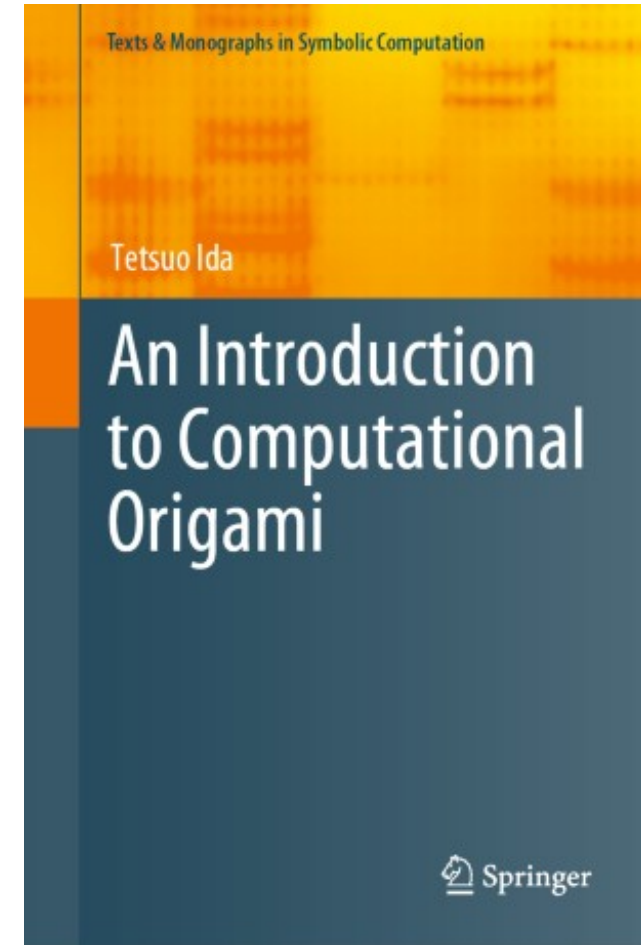


Fold-and-Cut → Thursday
bring scissors!

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AI Generated Origami

