



Computational Origami

Ryuhei Uehara

Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (JAIST)

School of Information Science

uehara@jaist.ac.jp

<http://www.jaist.ac.jp/~uehara>



Today's Topic

5. Time Complexity

- “Folding complexity”
 - Theoretically, the world fastest algorithm for pleat folding
- We can use some techniques in TCS.
 - Recursive analysis and Fibonacci sequence
 - Lower bound by counting method

6. Space Complexity (?)

- Stamp Folding Problem
- Minimization of Crease width
 - NP-complete problem, FPT algorithm

7. Undecidable Origami Problem

- Diagonalization and undecidability

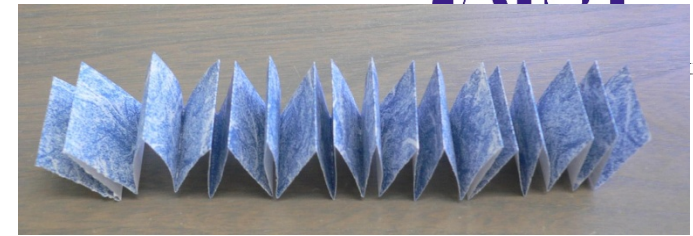


Stamp Folding Problem

Reference:

Ryuhei Uehara, Stamp foldings with a given mountain-valley assignment in *ORIGAMI*⁵, pp. 585-597, CRC Press, 2011.

• Pleat folding is...



- Alternating foldings of *Mountain* and *Valley*
- Basic tool of Origami
- Many applications
- Extension to **General Patterns** and consider its complexity...

Efficient Pleat Folding
 [Cardinal, Demaine, Demaine, Imahori, Langerman, Uehara 2009]

- Can fold n -fold M/V pleat in $O(\lg^{1+\sqrt{2}} n) \approx O(\lg^{2.414} n)$ simple folds

M V M V M V M V M V M V M V M V M V M V M V

By contrast, most M/V strings require $\Theta(n/\lg n)$ simple folds

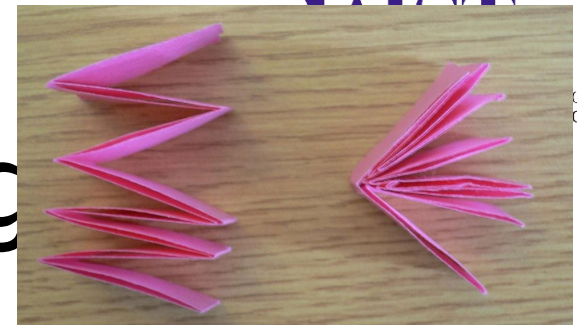
折紙探偵団 MAGAZINE

Quite important!!





• Complexity of folding



- From the viewpoint of **Computer Science**

- Two resources of a computation model;

1. time

Crease width of a paper =

2. space

the number of papers between two hinged papers

- Two *resources* of Origami model?

1. time...the number of foldings (operations)

- J. Cardinal, E. D. Demaine, M. L. Demaine, S. Imahori, T. Ito, M. Kiyomi, S. Langerman, R. Uehara, and T. Uno: Algorithmic Folding Complexity, *Graphs and Combinatorics*, accepted, 2010.

2. space...???

It is better to have *less stretch*
at each crease point

New problem

Crease width minimization problem

Input: Paper of length $n+1$ and $s \in \{M, V\}^n$

Output: folded paper according to s

Goal: Find a *good* folded state with small *crease width*

- At each crease, the number of papers between the papers hinged at the crease is *crease width*.
- Two minimization problems;
 - minimize maximum
 - minimize total (=average)

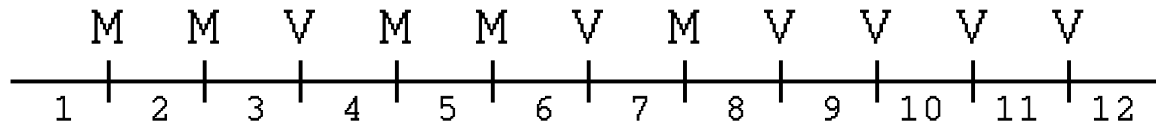


It seems simple,
... so easy??

New problem

- Simple non-trivial example

Input: MMVMMVMVVVV

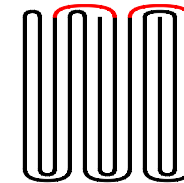


The number of feasible folded states: **100**

Goal: Find a *good* folded state with small *crease width*

- The **unique** solution having min. max. value 3

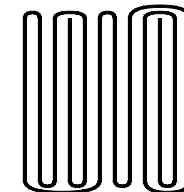
[5|4|3|6|7|1|2|8|10|12|11|9]



total=13

- The **unique** solution having min. total value 11

[5|4|3|1|2|6|7|8|10|12|11|9]



Max=4

New problem

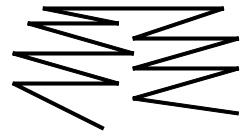
- Minimization problem for **crease width**

Input: Paper of length $n+1$ and $s \in \{M, V\}^n$

Output: folded paper according to s

Goal: Find a *good* folded state with small **crease width**

- Two minimization problems; max/total(average)
- A few facts;
 - a pattern has a unique folded state iff it is pleats
 - solutions of {min max} and {min total} are different depending on a crease pattern.
 - there is a pattern having exponential combinations



Minimization of crease width

- Open problem: (Solved later...)
- Tractable/Intractable?
 - NP-hard?
 - Poly-time solvable by Dynamic Programming?

It is NP-hard in general for min-max, and still open for total.
If total is k , we find a fixed parameter tractable algorithm for k .

- Then, exhaust search technique, that produces *all* possible folding ways, works?

average?

exponential
pattern



pleats

No!!

Average case...

The number of folding ways for a random pattern

- $\Theta(1.65^n)$ by experiments
- $\Omega(1.53^n)$ and $O(2^n)$ by theoretical lower/upper bounds

... so a naïve program runs *veeeerrrrrry* slow.

This problem is known as a **stamp folding problem**, which is a classic open problem, and I accidentally improved the lower bound 😊

Stamp folding problem

Average number of folding ways for a random pattern
 $= f(n)/2^n$, where

$f(n)$ = # of folding ways (or folded states) of a paper of length $n+1$
(summation for all possible patterns)

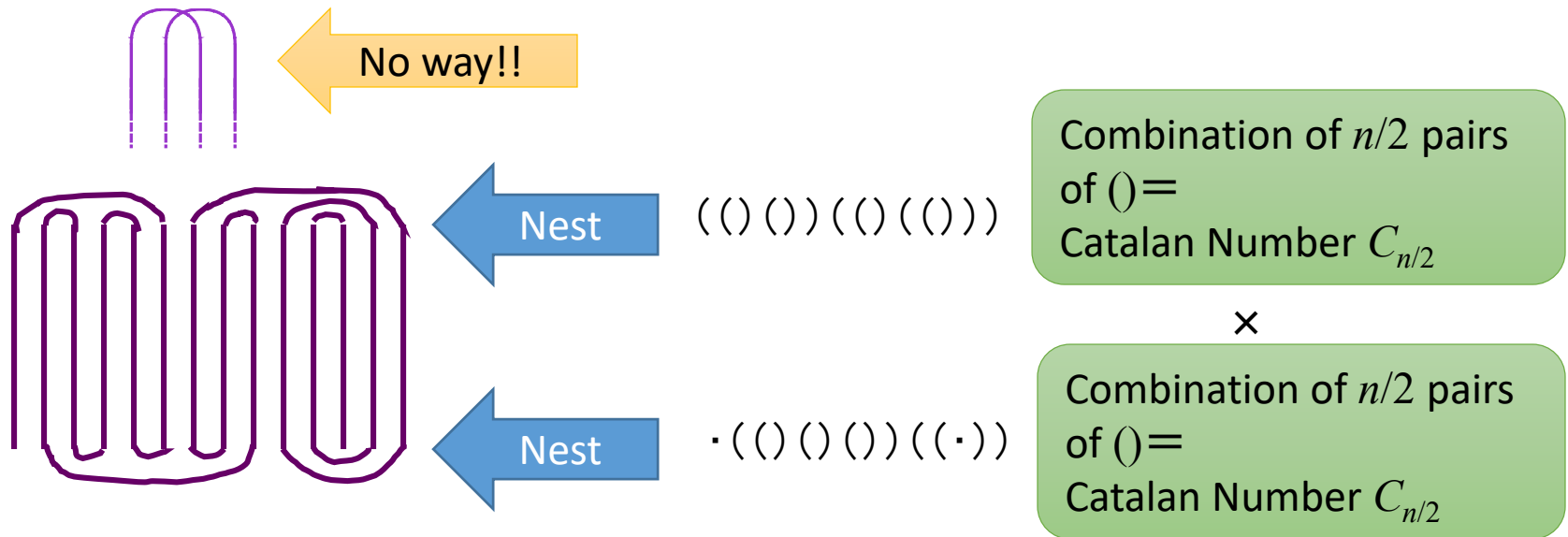
- I give some bounds of $f(n)$:
 - “The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences” tells us up to $n=28$ (by *enumeration*);
 $f(n) \sim \Theta(3.3^n)$.
 - I have upper/lower bounds;
 - upper bound: $f(n) = O(4^n)$
 - lower bound: $f(n) = \Omega(3.07^n)$

You should
know
OEIS

Stamp folding problem

The upper bound $O(4^n)$ comes from the Catalan number.

[Proof] If the paper of length $n+1$ is folded, the crease points should be nested.

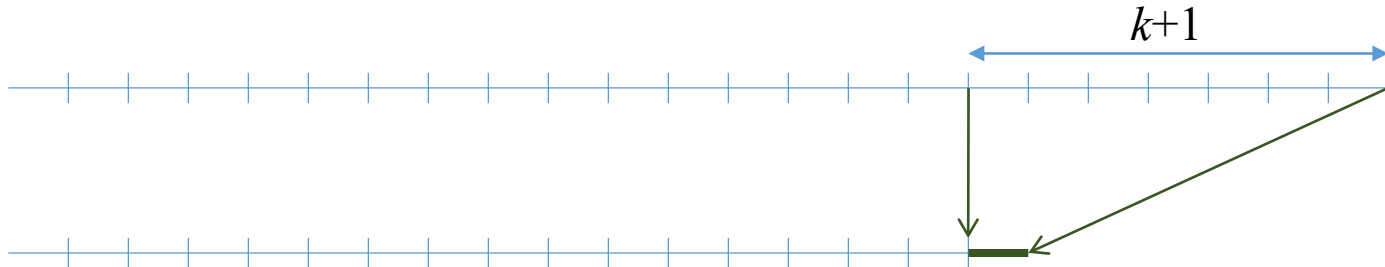


Stamp Folding Problem

Lower bound

[Theorem] Its lower bound is $\Omega(3.07^n)$.

[Proof] We consider “folding of the last $k+1$ unit papers”;

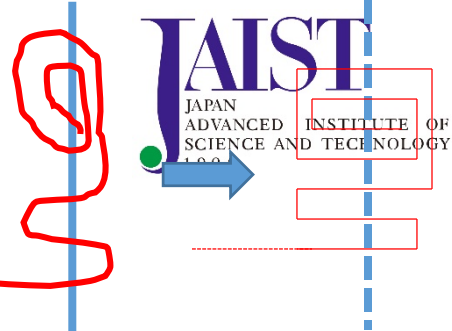


We let

- $f(n)$: the number of folding ways of length $n+1$
- $g(k)$: the number of folding ways of length $k+1$ s.t. the leftmost endpoint is not covered

Then, we have

$$f(n) \geq (g(k))^{\frac{n}{k-1}} = \left(g(k)^{1/(k-1)}\right)^n$$



Stamp Folding Problem

- Lower bound

[Theorem] Its lower bound is $\Omega(3.07^n)$.

[Proof] We consider “folding of the last $k+1$ unit papers”;

$g(k)$: the number of folding ways of length $k+1$ s.t.

the leftmost endpoint is not covered

is equal to “the number of ways a semi-infinite directed curve can cross a straight line k times”,

A000682 in “The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences”.

From that site, we have $g(43)=830776205506531894760$.

Thus, by
$$f(n) \geq (g(k))^{\frac{n}{k-1}} = (g(k)^{1/(k-1)})^n$$

we have the lower bound.

also obtained by enumeration



Open problem and Future work

Minimization of crease width is basically settled;

- Erik D. Demaine, David Eppstein, Adam Hesterberg, Hiro Ito, Anna Lubiw, Ryuhei Uehara and Yushi Uno: Folding a Paper Strip to Minimize Thickness, *WALCOM 2015*, Lecture Notes in Computer Science Vol. 8973, pp. 113-124, 2015/02/26-2015/02/28, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- Takuya Umesato, Toshiki Saitoh, Ryuhei Uehara, Hiro Ito, and Yoshio Okamoto: Complexity of the stamp folding problem, *Theoretical Computer Science*, Vol. 497, pp. 13-19, 2012.
- Some unsettled problems;
 - Minimization of crease width for “total” model

For stamp folding problem;

- What is the most complex pattern of M/V that has the most feasible folded states?

Extension of Stamp Folding

2 dimensional \rightarrow Map Folding Problem

Input: 2 dimensional (orthogonal) M/V pattern

Output: Does it have folded state of size 1×1 ?

- The complexity of map of size $m \times n$ is famous open problem
- For map of size $2 \times n$, $O(n^9)$ time algorithm was proposed , but...
- Difficult example;

