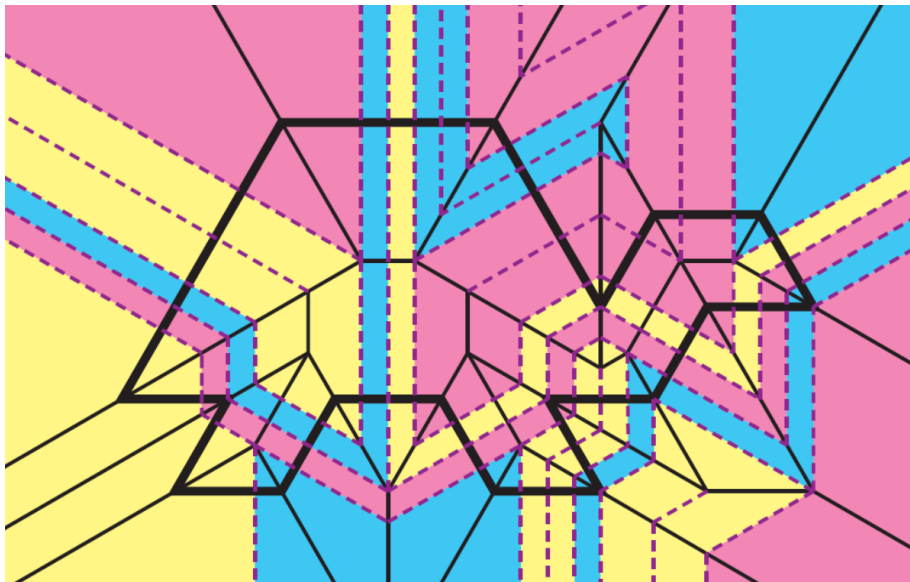


The SUMO Speaker Series for Undergraduates

Thursday, May 12
4:30 – 5:20pm, Bldg. 380, room 384H

(Food Provided)

The Fold & Cut Theorem



Professor Jenny Wilson

Abstract

Here is a challenge: take a piece of paper, draw a five-pointed star, and fold the paper flat so that you can cut out the entire star in as few straight-line cuts as possible. Can you fold it in such a way that you can cut out the star with *a single cut*?

It may sound impossible. Which straight-edged shapes can be obtained with a single cut of a flat folded piece of paper? We will play with paper and scissors, and investigate the mathematics behind the amazing Fold & Cut Theorem. (Scissors and paper will be provided.)

sumo.stanford.edu/speakers/