

Simple Origami Problem

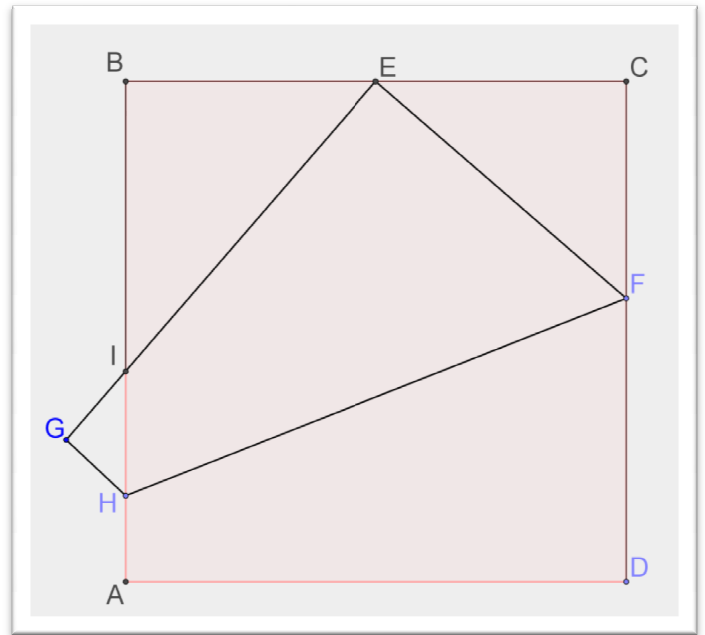
You are given a square paper of sides 24.

E is the mid-point of BC.

The piece of paper is folded so that the point D coincides with point E.

HF is the line of folding and point A goes to point G.

By considering the $\triangle CEF$, find all line segments in the diagram.



Solution

Let $CF = x$

$$CE = \frac{1}{2} \times 24 = 12$$

$$EF = FD = 24 - x$$

By Pythagoras Theorem,

$$(24 - x)^2 = x^2 + 12^2$$

$$x^2 - 48x + 576 = x^2 + 144$$

$$\therefore x = 9$$

$$CF = x = 9$$

$$EF = FD = 24 - 9 = 15$$

Note that $\angle IEF = 90^\circ$

$$\angle BEI = 90^\circ - \angle CEF = \angle CFE$$

Hence $\triangle BEI \sim \triangle CFE$ (AAA)

$$\frac{BE}{CF} = \frac{EI}{FE} = \frac{IB}{EC} \Rightarrow \frac{12}{9} = \frac{EI}{15} = \frac{IB}{12} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} EI = 20 \\ IB = 16 \end{cases}$$

Hence, $IA = 24 - IB = 24 - 16 = 8$

Let $GH = HA = y$, $HI = 8 - y$

Also, $\triangle GHI \sim \triangle BEI$ (AAA)

$$\frac{GH}{BE} = \frac{HI}{EI} = \frac{IG}{IB} \Rightarrow \frac{y}{12} = \frac{8-y}{20} = \frac{IG}{16}$$

$$\frac{y}{12} = \frac{8-y}{20} \Rightarrow y = 3$$

Hence, $GH = HA = 3$, $HI = 8 - 3 = 5$

$$\text{Also, } \frac{3}{12} = \frac{IG}{16} \Rightarrow IG = 4$$

By Pythagoras Theorem,

$$HF^2 = AD^2 + (FD - HA)^2$$

$$HF^2 = 24^2 + (15 - 3)^2$$

$$HF = 12\sqrt{5}$$

Yue Kwok Choy

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