

Due for the exercise session: June 11, 2026

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- (1) Can the  $8 \times 8$  checkerboard be tiled with 15  $T$ s and a  $2 \times 2$  square?
- (2) A *break-line* in a tiling of a grid region is a horizontal or vertical line such that none of the tiles of the tiling crosses the line.
  - a. Show that every tiling of a  $6 \times 6$  board with dominos has a break-line.
  - b. Find a tiling of the  $8 \times 8$  board with  $T$ s that has no break-line.
- (3) A  $L$ -triomino is obtained from a  $2 \times 2$  by removing one of its four squares.
  - a. Which  $n \times n$  boards can be tiled by  $L$ -triominoes?
  - b. Which  $n \times n$  boards with a removed corner square can be tiled by  $L$ -triominoes?
  - c. If we scale an  $L$ -triomino by a positive integer, it is a scaled  $L$ -triomino. Which scaled  $L$ -triominoes can be tiled by  $L$ -triominoes?
- (4) Let  $\Omega$  be the set of all domino tilings of the aztec diamond  $A(n)$ . A flip is the exchange of two horizontal dominos covering a  $2 \times 2$  square by a pair of vertical dominos or vice versa. Show that it is possible to commute between any two tilings in  $\Omega$  via flips.
- (5) We look at tilings of a triangular grid with rhombii, i.e., unions of two triangles of the grid sharing an edge. The region is triangular grid with sidelength  $n$ , i.e., with  $n + 1$  vertices on each side, and  $n$  holes. A hole is a triangle in the grid which has the same orientation as the full region, i.e., no two holes share an edge. Holes are not covered by rhombi.
  - a. Show that a tiling can only exist if each subtriangle of sidelength  $k$  contains at most  $k$  holes.
  - b. Show that the condition of **a.** is also sufficient for the existence of a tiling.