



**DCGI**

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER GRAPHICS AND INTERACTION

# CONVEX HULL IN 3 DIMENSIONS

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<https://cw.felk.cvut.cz/doku.php/courses/a4m39vg/start>

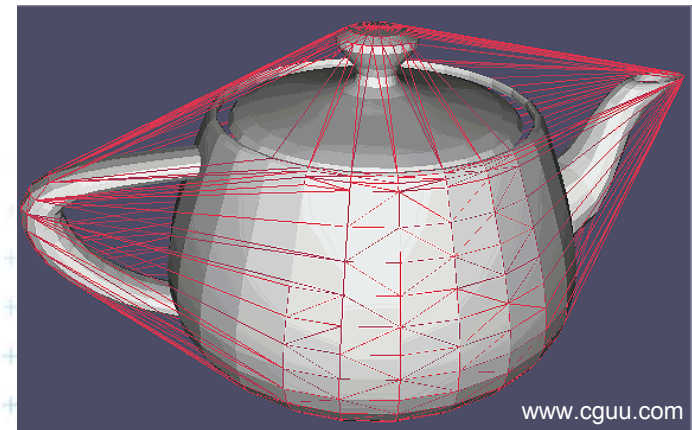
Based on [Berg], [Preparata], [Rourke] and [Boissonnat]

Version from 30.10.2019

# Talk overview

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- Upper bounds for convex hull in 2D and 3D
- Other criteria for CH algorithm classification
- Recapitulation of CH algorithms
- Terminology refresh
- Convex hull in 3D
  - Terminology
  - Algorithms
    - Gift wrapping
    - D&C Merge
    - Randomized Incremental



# Upper bounds for Convex hull algorithms

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- $O(n)$  for **sorted points** and for simple polygon
- $O(n \log n)$  in  $E^2, E^3$  with **sorting**
  - insensitive about output
- $O(n h), O(n \log h)$ ,  $h$  is number of CH facets
  - output sensitive
  - $O(n^2)$  or  $O(n \log n)$  for  $n \sim h$
- $O(\log n)$  for new point insertion in realtime algs.
  - $\Rightarrow O(n \log n)$  for  $n$ -points
  - $O(\log n)$  search where to insert



# Other criteria for CH algorithm classification

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- Optimality – depends on data order (or distribution)
  - In the worst case x In the expected case
- Output sensitivity – depends on the result  $\sim O(f(h))$
- Extendable to higher dimensions?
- Off-line versus on-line
  - **Off-line** – all points available, preprocessing for search speedup
  - **On-line** – stream of points, new point  $p_i$  on demand, just one new point at a time, CH valid for  $\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_i\}$
  - **Real-time** – points come as they “want”  
(come not faster than optimal constant  $O(\log n)$  inter-arrival delay)
- Parallelizable x serial
- Dynamic – points can be deleted

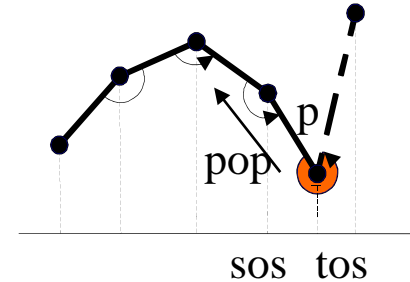
■ Deterministic x approximate (lecture 13)



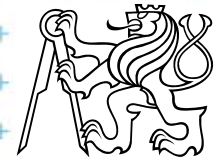
# Graham scan

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- $O(n \log n)$  time and  $O(n)$  space is
  - optimal in the worst case
  - not optimal in average case (not output sensitive)
  - only 2D
  - off-line
  - serial (not parallel)
  - not dynamic (no deleted points)



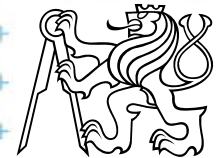
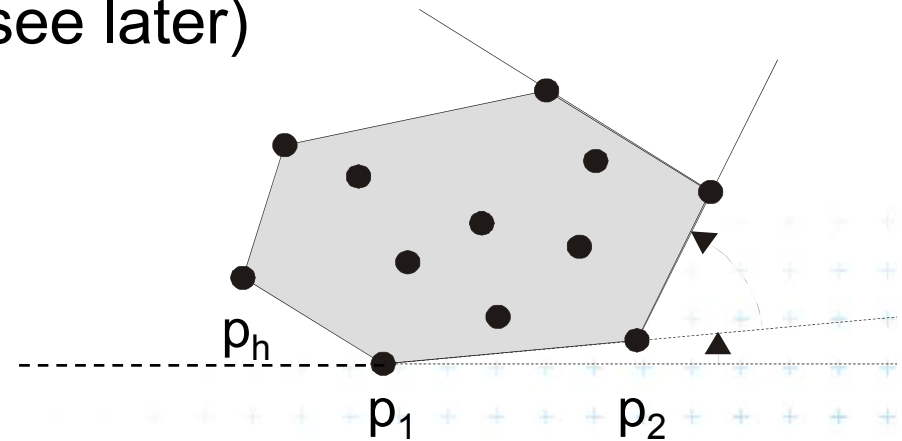
$O(n)$  for polygon (discussed in seminar)



# Jarvis March – Gift wrapping

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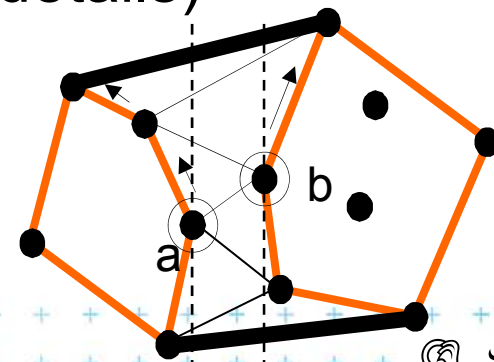
- $O(hn)$  time and  $O(n)$  space is
  - not optimal in worst case  $O(n^2)$
  - may be optimal if  $h \ll n$  (output sensitive)
  - 3D or higher dimensions (see later)
  - off-line
  - serial (not parallel)
  - not dynamic



# Divide & Conquer

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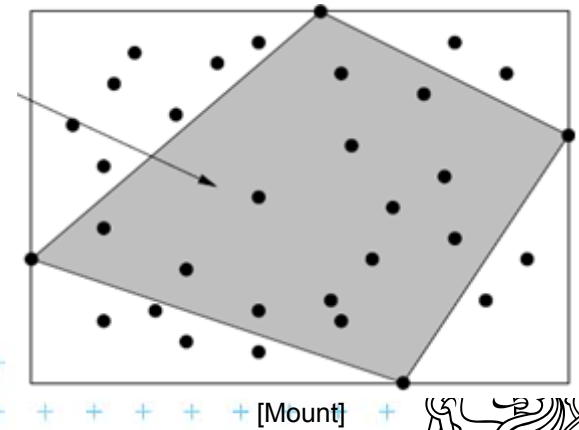
- $O(n \log n)$  time and  $O(n)$  space is
  - optimal in worst case (in 2D or 3D)
  - not optimal in average case (not output sensitive)
  - 2D or 3D (circular ordering), in higher dims not optimal
  - off-line
  - Version with sorting (the presented one) – serial
  - Parallel for overlapping merged hulls (see Chapter 3.3.5 in Preparata for details)
  - not dynamic



# Quick hull

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- $O(n \log n)$  expected time,  $O(n^2)$  the worst case and  $O(n)$  space *in 2D* is
  - not optimal in worst case  $O(n^2)$
  - optimal if uniform distribution then  $h \ll n$  (output sensitive)
  - 2D, or higher dimensions [see <http://www.qhull.org/>]
  - off-line
  - parallelizable
  - not dynamic

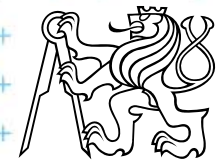
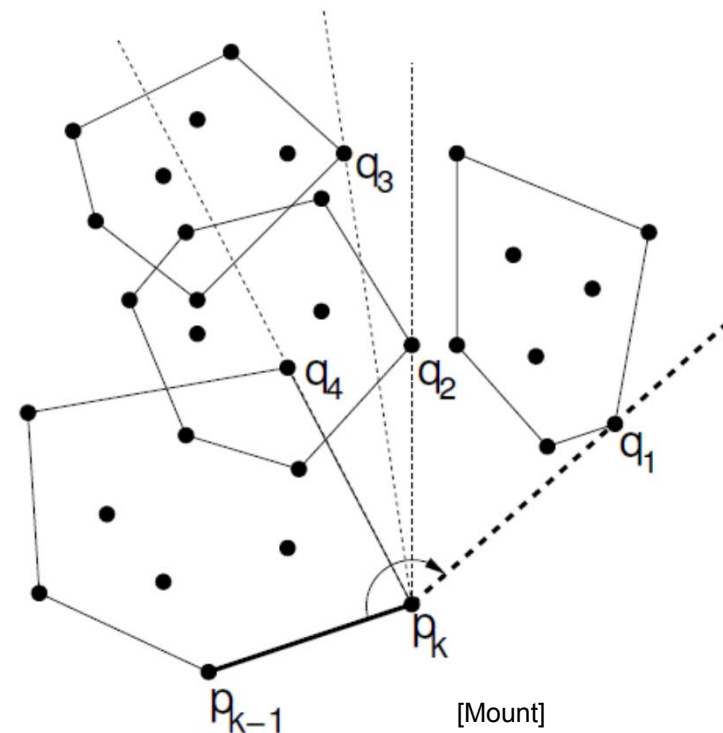




# Chan

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- $O(n \log h)$  time and  $O(n)$  space is
  - optimal for  $h$  points on convex hull (output sensitive)
  - 2D and 3D --- gift wrapping
  - off-line
  - Serial (not parallel)
  - not dynamic



# On-line algorithms

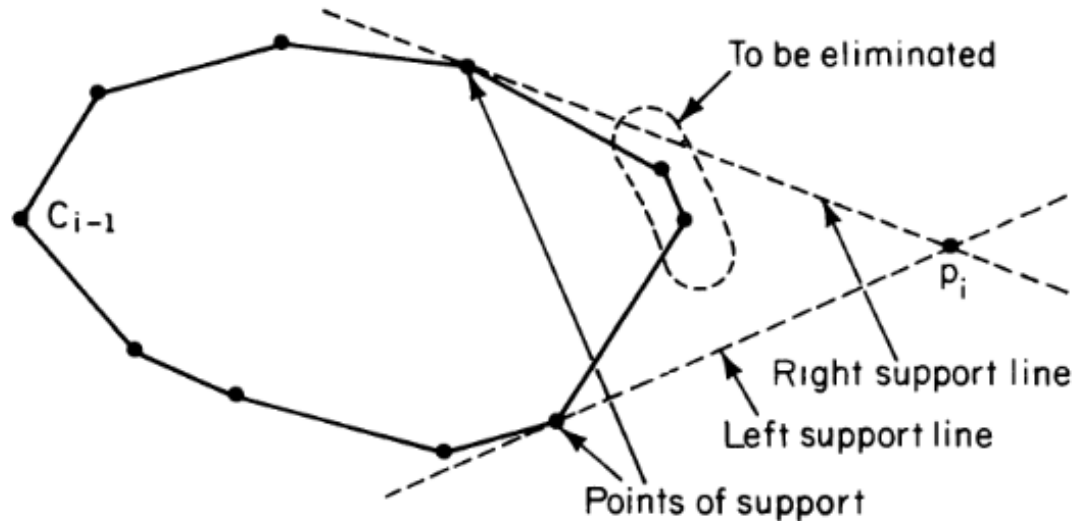
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- Preparata's on-line algorithm
- Overmars and van Leeuwen

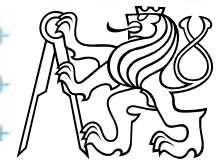


# Preparata's 2D on-line algorithm

- New point  $p$  is tested
  - Inside → ignored
  - Outside → added to hull
    - Find left and right **supporting lines** (touch at supporting points)
    - Remove points between supporting points
    - Add  $p$  to CH between supporting lines



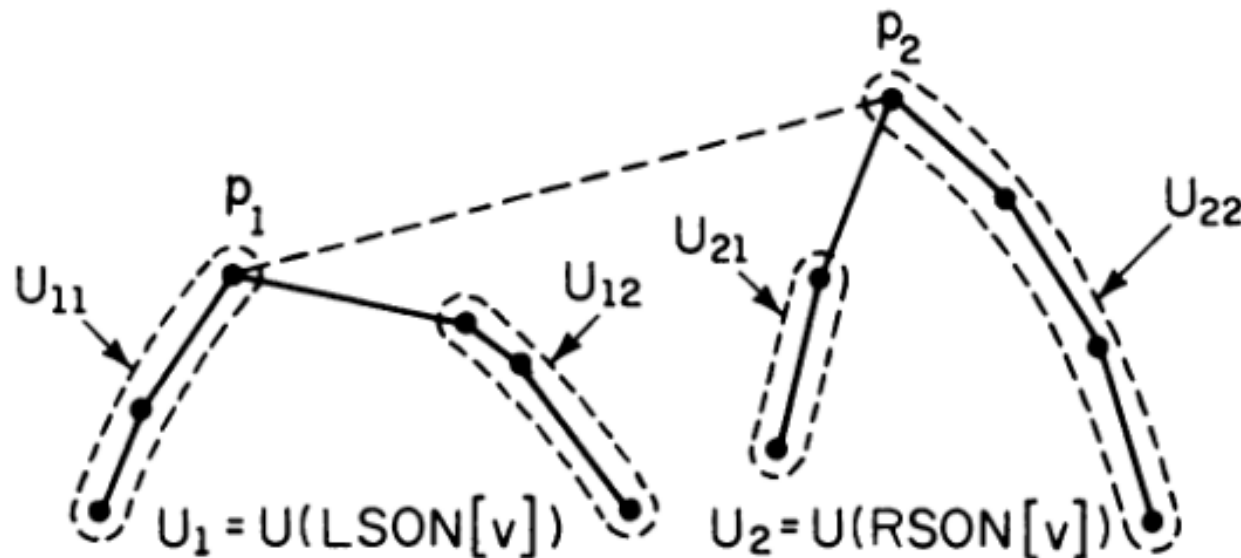
[Preparata]



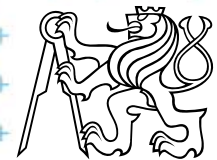
# Overmars and van Leeuwen

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- Allow dynamic 2D CH (on-line insert & delete)
- Manage special tree with all intermediate CHs
- Will be discussed on seminar [7]



[Preparata]



# Convex hull in 3D

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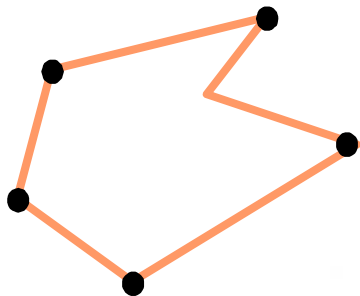
- Terminology
- Algorithms
  1. Gift wrapping
  2. D&C Merge
  3. Randomized Incremental
  4. Quick hull ... minule



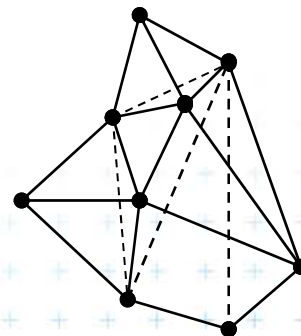
# Terminology

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- **Polytope** (d-polytope)  
= a geometric object with "flat" sides  $E^d$   
(may be or may not be convex)
- Flat sides mean that  
the sides of a  $(k)$ -polytope  
consist of  $(k-1)$ -polytopes that  
may have  $(k-2)$ -polytopes in common.



2-polytop  
= polygon

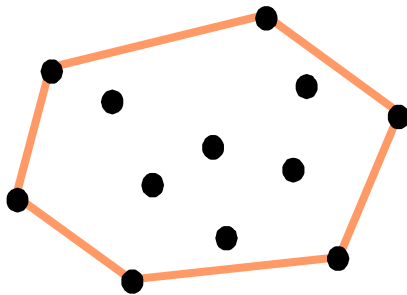


3-polytop  
= polyhedron

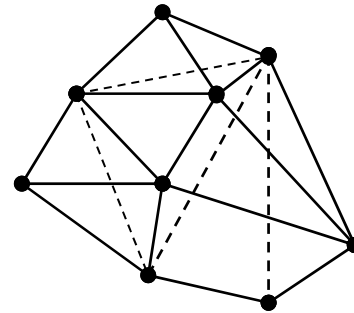


# Terminology

- **Convex Polytope** (convex  $d$ -polytope)  
 = convex hull of finite set of points in  $E^d$



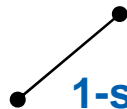
convex  
2-polytop



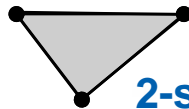
convex  
3-polytop

- **Simplex** ( $k$ -simplex,  $d$ -simplex)  
 = CH of  $k + 1$  *affine independent points*

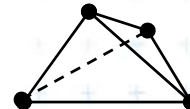
(vectors  $(p_k - p_0)$  are linearly independent)



1-simplex



2-simplex



3-simplex

= “Special” Convex Polytope with all the points on the CH

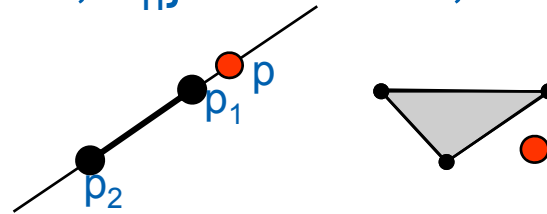


# Terminology (2)

- Affine combination**

= linear combination of the points  $\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n\}$  whose coefficients  $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n\}$  **sum to 1**, and  $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i p_i$$



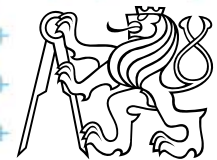
- Affine independent points**

= no one point can be expressed as affine combination of the others



- Convex combination**

= linear combination of the points  $\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n\}$  whose coefficients  $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n\}$  **sum to 1**, and  $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}^+_0$  (i.e.,  $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, \lambda_i \geq 0$ )  $\Rightarrow \lambda_i \in \langle 0, 1 \rangle$

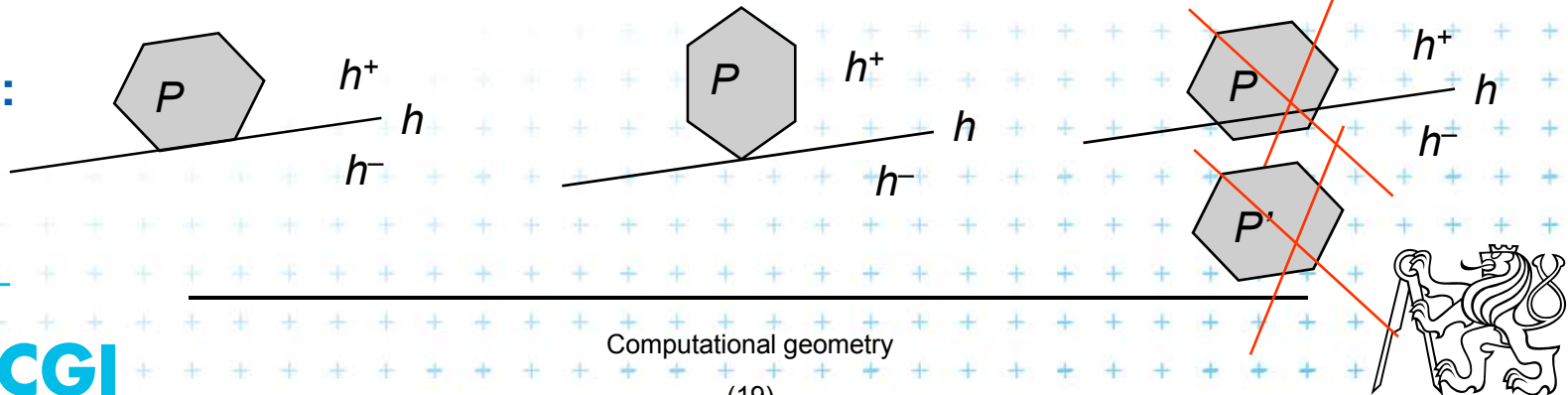




# Terminology (3)

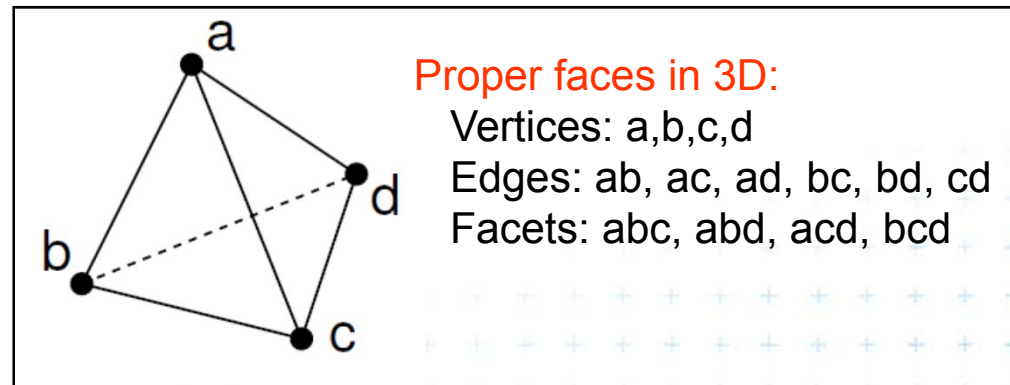
- Any  $(d-1)$ -dimensional hyperplane  $h$  divides the space into (open) halfspaces  $h^+$  and  $h^-$ , so that  $E^n = h^+ \cup h \cup h^-$
- Def:  $\overline{h^+} = h^+ \cup h$ ,  $\overline{h^-} = h^- \cup h$  (closed halfspaces)
- Hyperplane supports a convex polytope  $P$  (Supporting hyperplane – *opěrná nadrovina*)
  - if  $h \cap P$  is not empty and
  - if  $P$  is entirely contained within either  $\overline{h^+}$  or  $\overline{h^-}$

In 2D:



# Faces and facets

- **Face** of the convex polytope  
= Intersection of convex polytope  $P$   
with a supporting hyperplane  $h$ 
  - Faces are convex polytopes of dimension  $d$  ranging from 0 to  $d - 1$
  - 0-face = **vertex**
  - 1-face = **edge**
  - $(d - 1)$ -face = **facet**



In 3D we often say *face*, but more precisely a **facet**

(In 3D a 2-face = facet)

(In 2D a 1-face = facet)



# Proper faces

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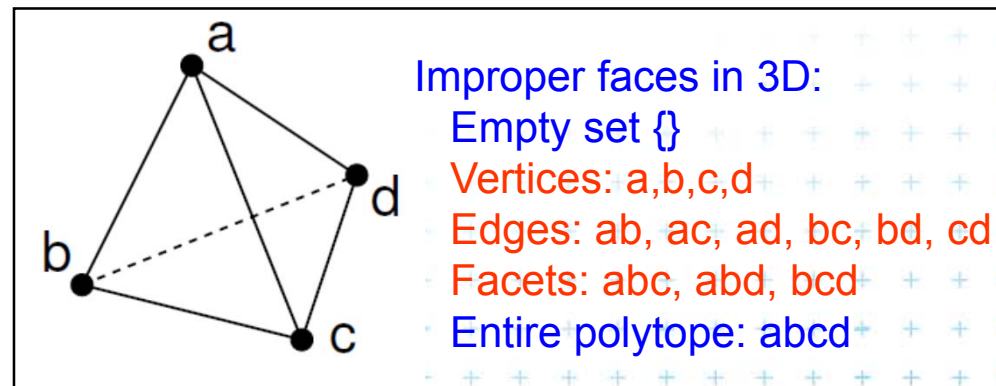
- Proper faces

= Faces of dimension  $d$  ranging from 0 to  $d - 1$

- Improper faces

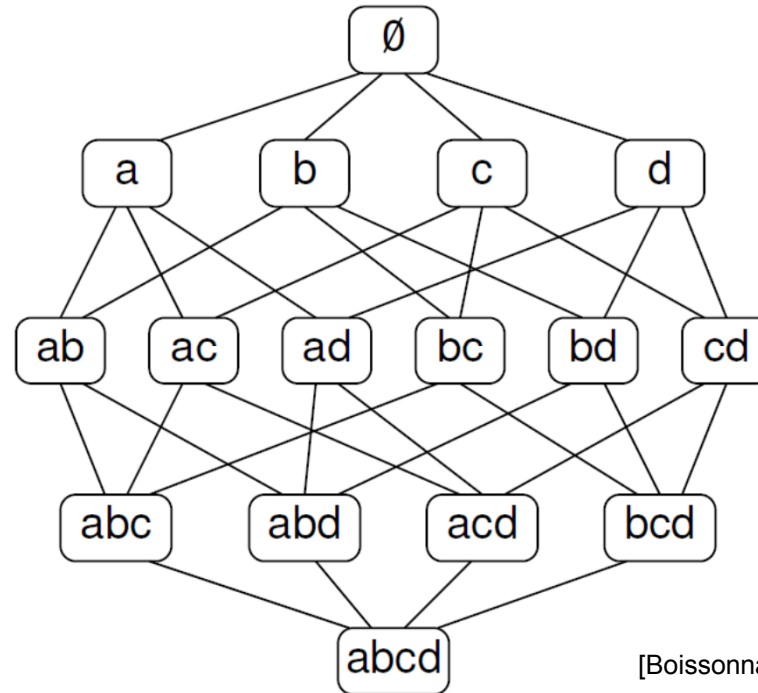
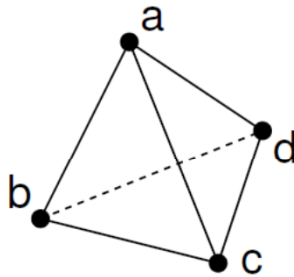
= proper faces + two additional faces:

- $\{\}$  = Empty set = face of dimension  $-1$
- Entire convex polytope = face of dimension  $d$



# Incident graph

- Stores **topology of the polytope**
- Ex: 3-simplex:



[Boissonnat]

Dimension

-1

0

1

2

3

- **d-simplex is a very regular face structure:**
  - 1-face for each pair of vertices
  - 2-face for each triple of vertices



# Facts about polytopes

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- Boundary of polytope is *union of its proper faces*
- Polytope has *finite number of faces (next slide)*.  
Each face is a polytope
- Convex polytope is *convex hull of its vertices (the def)*, its bounded
- Convex polytope is the *intersection of finite number of closed halfspaces  $\overline{h^+}$*   
(conversely not: intersection of closed halfspaces may be unbounded => called *unbounded polytope*)

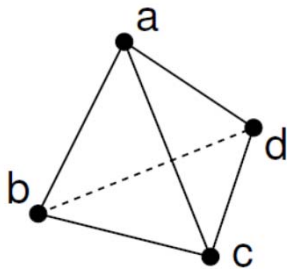


# Number of faces on a d-simplex

- Number of  $j$ -dimensional faces on a  $d$ -simplex

$$\binom{d+1}{j+1} = \frac{(d+1)!}{(j+1)!(d-j)!}$$

- Ex.: Tetrahedron = 3-simplex:



– facets (2-dim. faces)  $\binom{3+1}{2+1} = \frac{4!}{3!1!} = 4$

– edges (1-dim. faces)  $\binom{3+1}{1+1} = \frac{4!}{2!2!} = 6$

– vertices (0-dim faces)  $\binom{3+1}{0+1} = \frac{4!}{1!3!} = 4$



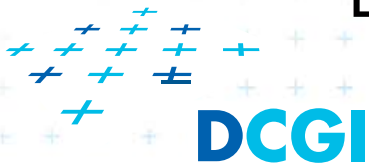
# Complexity of 3D convex hull is $O(n)$

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- 3-polytope - has polygonal faces
- convex 3-polytope (CH of a point set in 3D)
- simplicial 3-polytope
  - has triangular faces ( $\Rightarrow$  more edges and faces)
- **simplicial convex 3-polytope** with all  $n$  points on CH
  - the worst case complexity
  - $\Rightarrow$  maximum # of edges and faces for given points
  - has triangular facets, each generates 3 edges, shared by 2 triangles  $\Rightarrow 3F = 2E$  2-manifold

$$F = 2V - 4 \quad \Rightarrow \quad F \leq 2V - 4 \quad F = O(n)$$

$$E = 3V - 6 \quad \Rightarrow \quad E \leq 3V - 6 \quad E = O(n)$$



# Complexity of 3D convex hull is $O(n)$

- The worst case complexity  $\rightarrow$  if all  $n$  points on CH

$\Rightarrow$  use simplicial convex 3-polytop for complexity derivation

1. has all points on its surface – on the Convex Hull
2. has triangular facets, each generates 3 edges, shared by 2 triangles  $\Rightarrow 3F = 2E$

2-manifold  $F = 2E / 3$

- $V - E + F = 2$  ... Euler formula for  $V = n$  points

$$V - E + 2E/3 = 2$$

$$V - 2 = E / 3$$

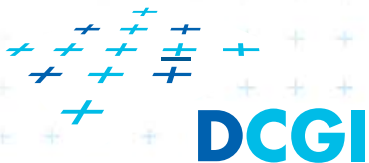
$$E = 3V - 6, \quad V = n$$

$$E = O(n)$$

$$F = 2E / 3$$

$$F = 2V - 4$$

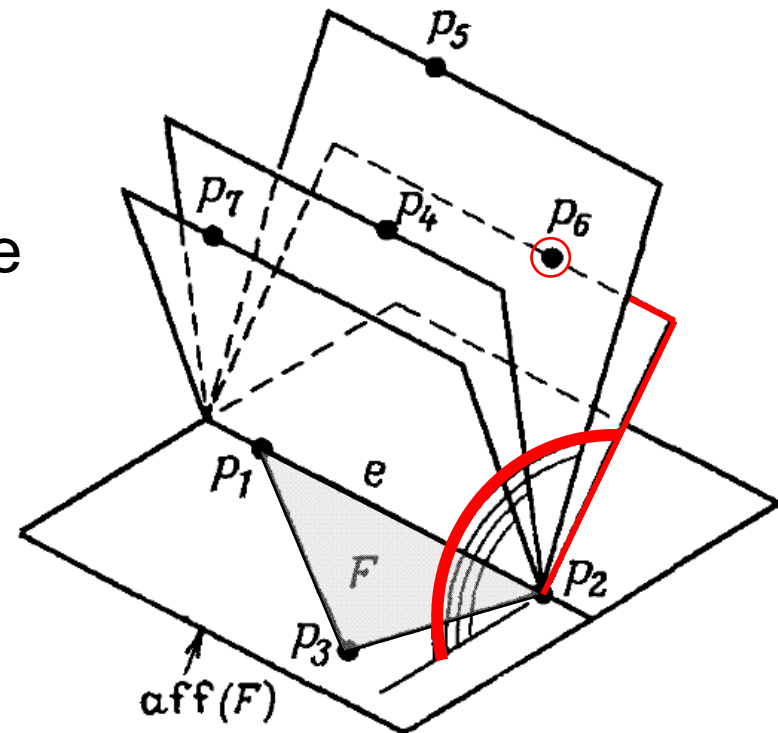
$$F = O(n)$$



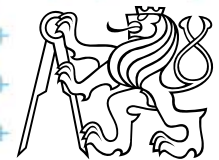


# 1. Gift wrapping in higher dimensions

- First known algorithm for n-dimensions (1970)
- Direct extension of 2D alg.
- Complexity  $O(nF)$ 
  - $F$  is number of CH facets
  - Algorithm is output sensitive
  - Details on seminar, assignment [10]



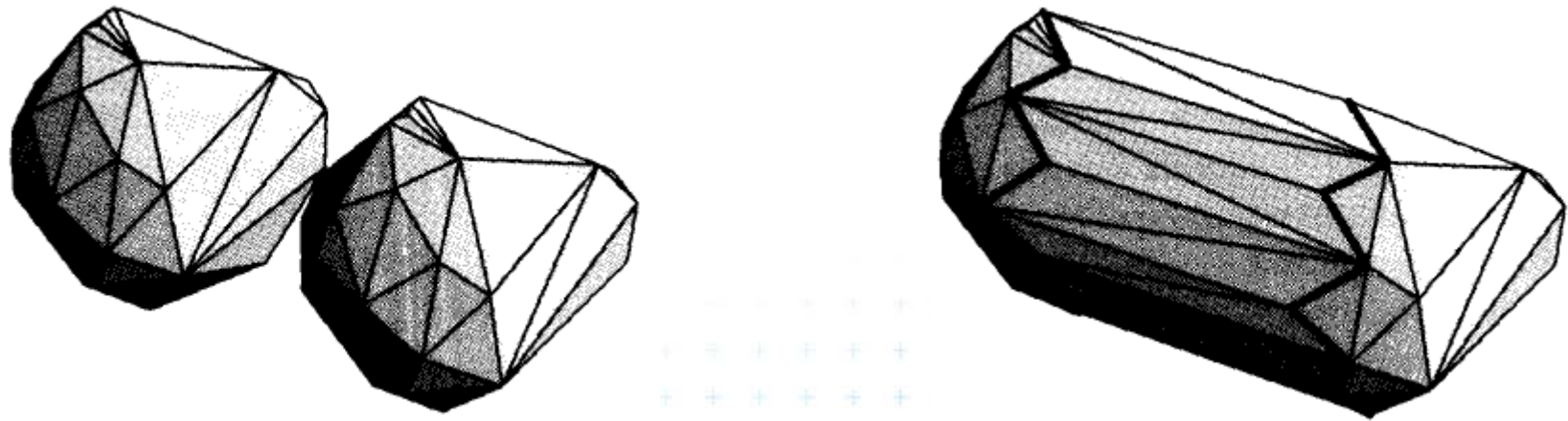
[Preparata]



## 2. Divide & conquer 3D convex hull [Preparata, Hong77]

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- Sort points in x-coord
- Recursively split, construct CH, merge
- Merge takes  $O(n) \Rightarrow O(n \log n)$  total time



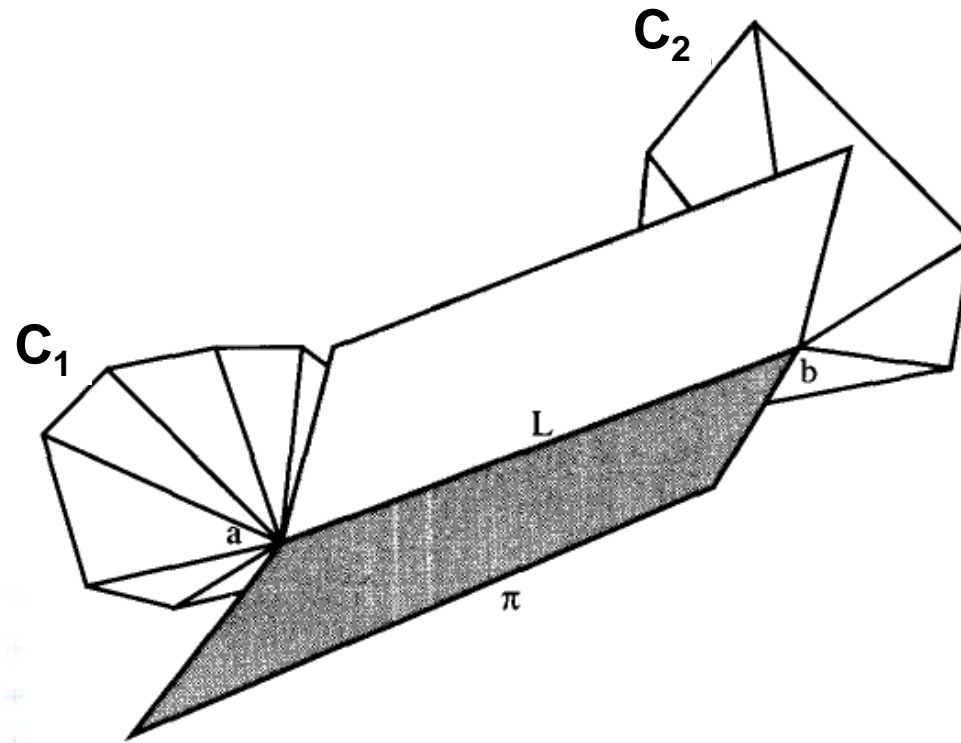
[Rourke]



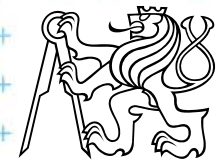
# Divide & conquer 3D convex hull

[Preparata, Hong 77]

- Merge( $C_1$  with  $C_2$ ) uses gift wrapping
  - Gift wrap plane around edge  $e$  – find new point  $p$  on  $C_1$  or on  $C_2$  (neighbor of  $a$  or  $b$ )
  - Search just the CW or CCW neighbors around  $a, b$



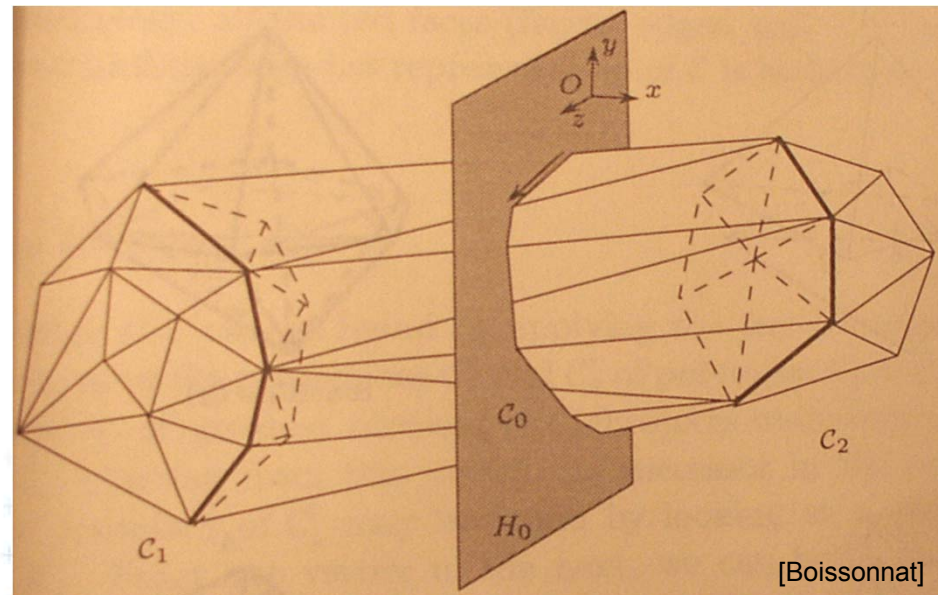
[Rourke]



# Divide & conquer 3D convex hull

[Preparata, Hong 77]

- Performance  $O(n \log n)$  rely on circular ordering
  - In 2D: Ordering of points around CH
  - In 3D: Ordering of vertices around 2-polytop  $C_0$  (vertices on intersection of new CH edges with separating plane  $H_0$ ) [ordering around horizon of  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  does not exist, as both horizons may be non-convex and even not simple polygons]
  - In  $\geq 4D$ : Such ordering does not exist

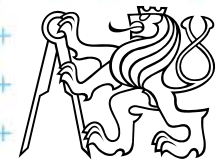
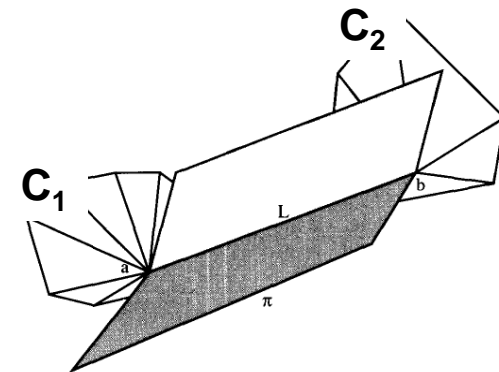


# Divide & conquer 3D convex hull

[Preparata, Hong 77]

Merge( $C_1$  with  $C_2$ )

- Find the **first CH edge**  $L$  connecting  $C_1$  with  $C_2$
- $e = L$
- While not back at  $L$  do **CHYBA**
  - store  $e$  to  $C$
  - Gift wrap plane around edge  $e$  – find **new point**  $P$  on  $C_1$  or on  $C_2$  (neighbor of  $a$  or  $b$ )
  - $e =$  **new edge** to just found end-point  $P$
  - Store **new triangle**  $eP$  to  $C$
- Discard hidden faces inside CH from  $C$
- Report **merged convex hull**  $C$



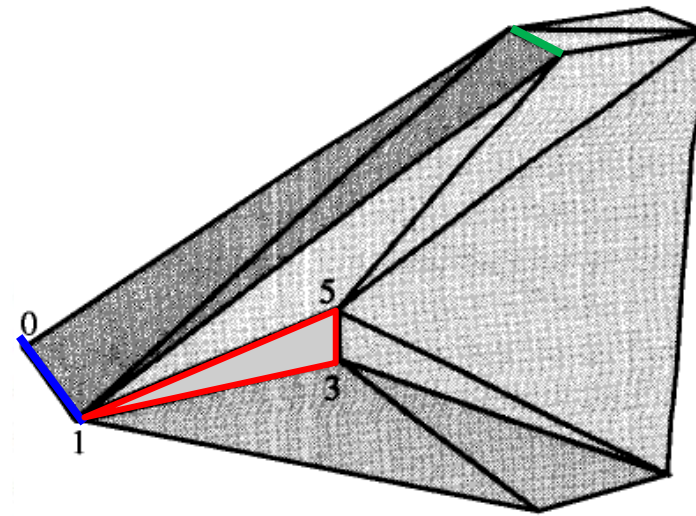
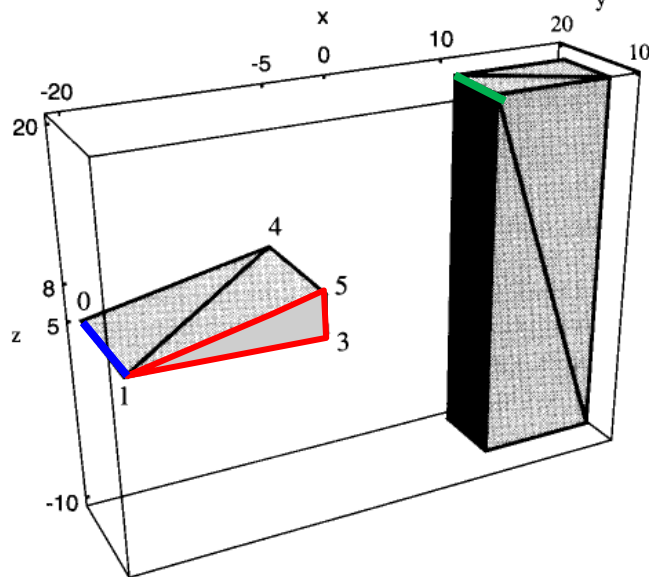
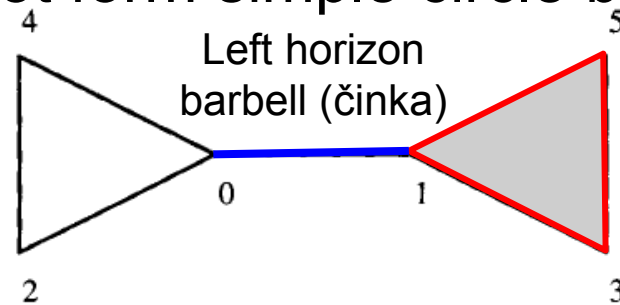
# Divide & conquer 3D convex hull

[Preparata, Hong 77]

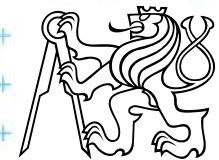
## ■ Problem of the wrapping phase [Edelsbrunner 88]

- The edges on horizon do not form simple circle but a “barbell” 0,2,4,0,1,3,5,1

Do not stop here! ↑



[Berg]



# 3. Randomized incremental alg. principle

## 1. Create tetrahedron (smallest CH in 3D) $CH(P_4)$

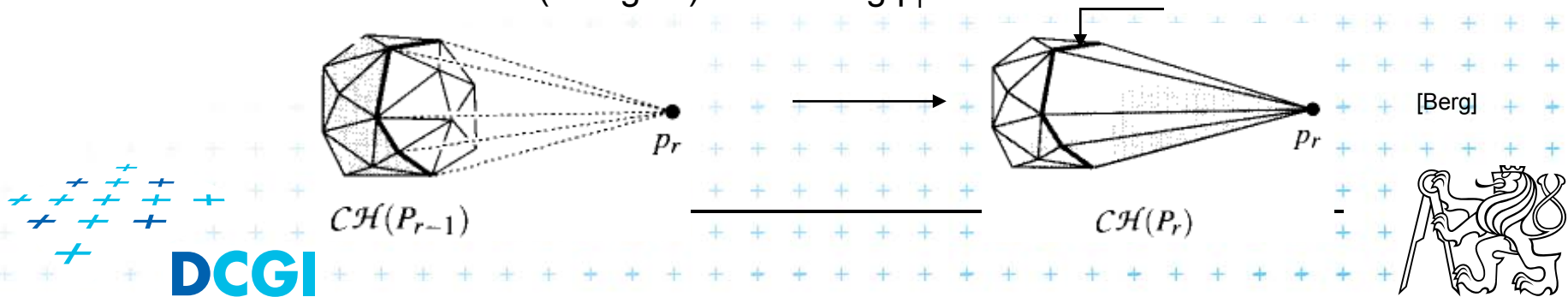
- Take 2 points  $p_1$  and  $p_2$
- Search the 3<sup>rd</sup> point not lying on line  $p_1p_2$
- Search the 4<sup>th</sup> point not lying in plane  $p_1p_2p_3$  ...if not found, use 2D CH

## 2. Perform random permutation of remaining points $\{p_5, \dots, p_n\}$

## 3. For $p_r$ in $\{p_5, \dots, p_n\}$ do add point $p_r$ to $CH(P_{r-1})$

Notation: for  $r \geq 1$  let  $P_r = \{p_1, \dots, p_r\}$  is set of already processed pts

- If  $p_r$  lies inside or on the boundary of  $CH(P_{r-1})$  then do nothing
- If  $p_r$  lies outside of  $CH(P_{r-1})$  then
  - find and remove visible faces
  - create new faces (triangles) connecting  $p_r$  with lines of horizon



# Conflict graph

- Stores unprocessed points with facets of CH they see

- Bipartite graph

points  $p_t, t > r$  ... unprocessed points

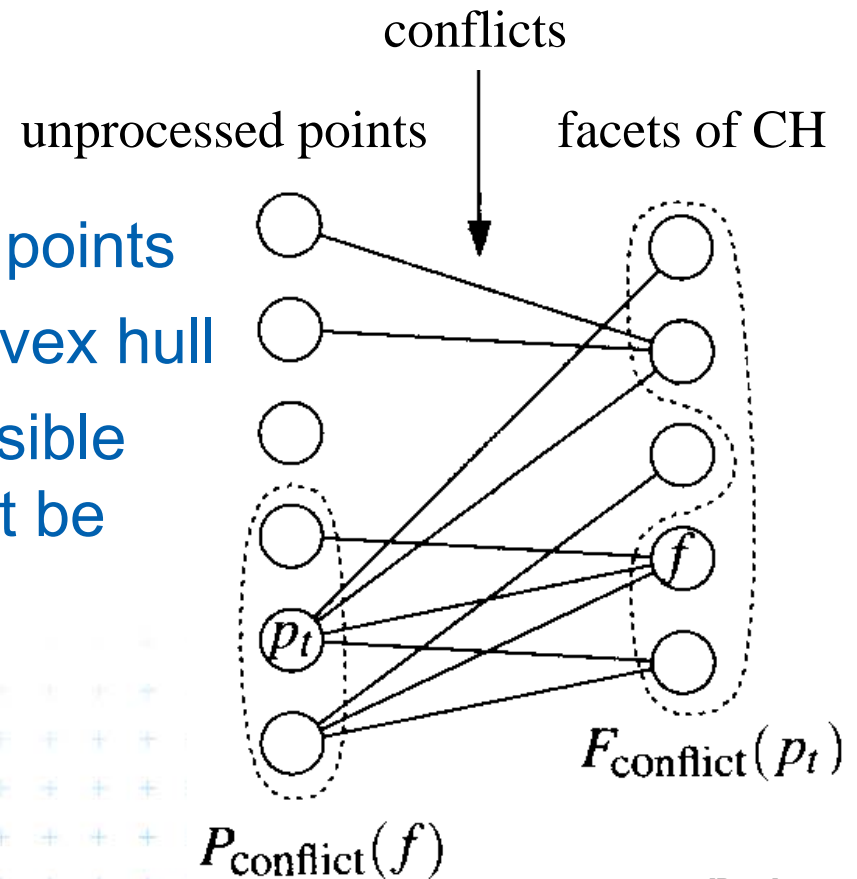
facets of  $CH(P_r)$ ... facets of convex hull

conflict arcs ... conflict, as visible facets cannot be in CH

- Maintains sets:

$P_{\text{conflict}}(f)$  ... points, that see  $f$

$F_{\text{conflict}}(p_r)$ ... facets visible from  $p_r$   
(visible region – deleted after insertion of  $p_r$ )



[Berg]





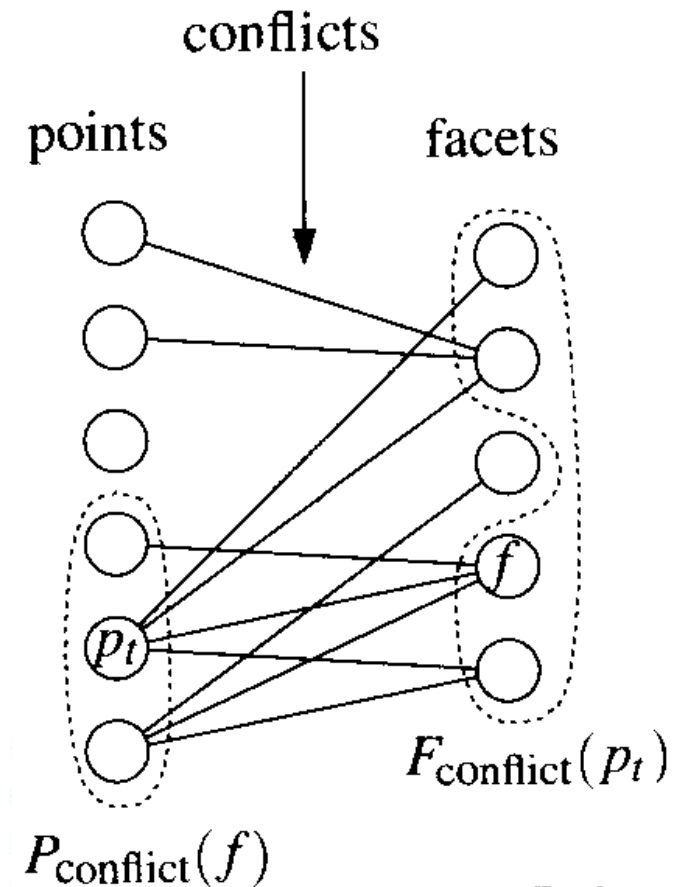
# Conflict graph – init and final state

## ■ Initialization

- Points  $\{p_5, \dots, p_n\}$  (not in tetrahedron)
- Facets of the tetrahedron (four)
- Arcs – connect each tetrahedron facet with points visible from it

## ■ Final state

- Points –  $\{\} =$  empty set
- Facets of the convex hull
- Arcs - none

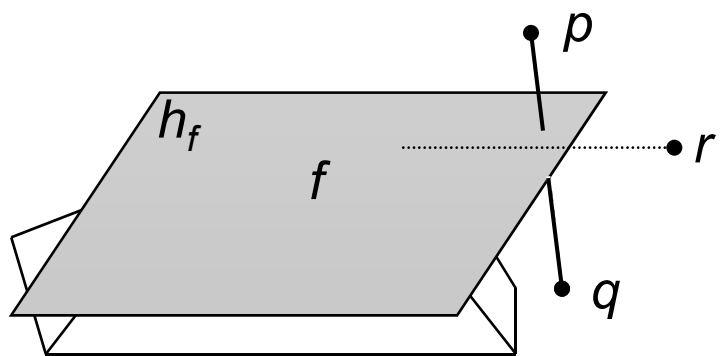


[Berg]



# Visibility between point and face

- Face  $f$  is **visible** from a point  $p$  if that point lies in the open half-space on the other side of  $h_f$  than the polytope

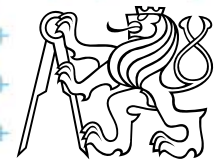


$f$  is **visible** from  $p$  ( $p$  is above the plane)

$f$  is **not visible** from  $r$  lying in the plane of  $f$   
(this case will be discussed next)

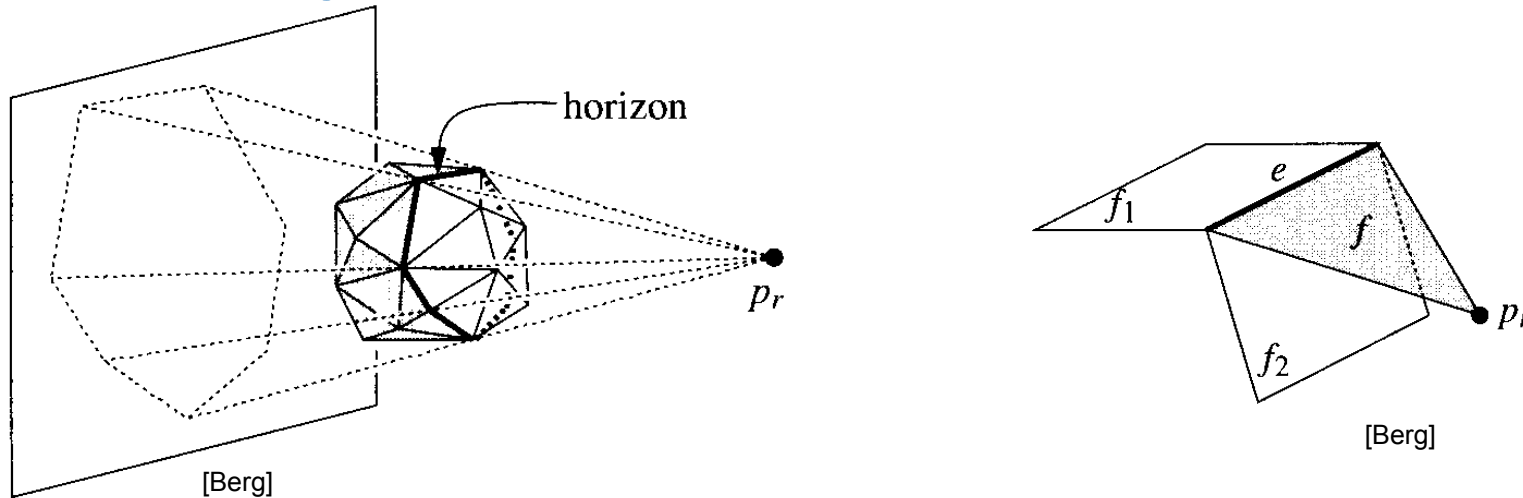
$f$  is **not visible** from  $q$

$p \in P_{\text{conflict}}(f)$ ,  $p$  is among the points that see the face  $f$   
 $f \in F_{\text{conflict}}(p)$   $f$  is among the faces visible from point  $p$



# New triangles to horizon

- **Horizon** = edges  $e$  incident to visible and invisible facets



- **New triangle  $f$**  connects edge  $e$  on horizon and point  $p_r$  and
  - creates **new node for facet  $f$**  updates the conflict graph
  - add **arcs to points visible from  $f$**  (subset from  $P_{\text{conflict}}(f_1) \cup P_{\text{conflict}}(f_2)$  )
- **Coplanar triangles on the plane  $ep_r$** 
  - are merged with new triangle.
  - Conflicts in  $G$  are copied from the deleted triangle (same plane)



# Overview of new point insertion

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## Processing of point $p_r$ outside

- Remove facets that  $p_r$  sees from the CH (do not delete them from the graph  $G$ )
- Find horizon edges (around the hole in CH)
- Create new facets from horizon edges to  $p_r$ 
  - add them to CH
  - create face nodes  $f$  in  $G$  for them
- Compute what  $p_r$  sees – search only from  $P(e) = P_{\text{conflict}}(f_1) \cup P_{\text{conflict}}(f_2)$
- Delete node  $p_r$  and face  $F_{\text{conflict}}(p_r)$  from  $G$



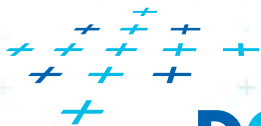
# Incremental Convex hull algorithm

## IncrementalConvexHull( $P$ )

*Input:* Set of  $n$  points in general position in 3D space

*Output:* The convex hull  $C = CH(P)$  of  $P$

1. Find four points that form an initial tetrahedron,  $C = CH(\{p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4\})$
  2. Compute random permutation  $\{p_5, p_6, \dots, p_n\}$  of the remaining points
  3. Initialize the **conflict graph**  $G$  with all visible pairs  $(p_t, f)$ , where  $f$  is facet of  $C$  and  $p_t, t > 4$ , are non-processed points
  4. **for**  $r = 5$  to  $n$  **do** ...inserting  $p_r$ , into  $C$
  5. | **if**  $(F_{conflict}(p_r))$  is not empty **then** ... $p_r$  is outside, insert  $p_r$ , into  $C$
  6. | Delete all facets  $F_{conflict}(p_r)$  from  $C$  ... only from hull  $C$ , not from  $G$
  7. | Walk around visible region boundary, create **list  $L$  of horizon edges**
  8. | **for** all  $e \in L$  **do**
  9. | connect  $e$  to  $p_r$  by a **new triangular facet  $f$**
  10. | **if**  $f$  is coplanar with its neighbor facet  $f'$  along  $e$
  11. | **then** merge  $f$  and  $f'$  in  $C$ , take conflict list from  $f'$
  12. | **else** ... determine conflicts for new facet  $f$
- ... [continue on the next slide]



# Incremental Convex hull algorithm (cont...)

```
12. | | | else ... not coplanar => determine conflicts for new facet f
13. | | | | Insert f into hull C
14. | | | | Create node for f in G //... new face in conflict graph G
15. | | | | Let f1 and f2 be the facets incident to e in the old CH(Pr-1)
16. | | | | P(e) = Pconflict(f1) ∪ Pconflict(f2)
17. | | | | for all points p ∈ P(e) do
18. | | | | | if f is visible from p, then add(p, f) to G ... new edges in G
19. | | | | Delete the node corresponding to pr and the nodes corresponding
    | | | | to facets in Fconflict(pr) from G, together with their incident arcs
20. return C
```

Complexity: Convex hull of a set of points in  $E^3$  can be computed incrementally in  $O(n \log n)$  randomized expected time (process  $O(n)$  points, but number of facets and arcs depend on the order of inserting points – up to  $O(n^2)$ ) For proof see: [Berg, Section 11.3]



# Convex hull in higher dimensions

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- Convex hull in  $d$  dimensions can have  $\Omega(n^{\lfloor d/2 \rfloor})$   
Proved by [Klee, 1980]
- Therefore, 4D hull can have quadratic size
- No  $O(n \log n)$  algorithm possible for  $d > 3$
- These approaches can extend to  $d > 3$ 
  - Gift wrapping
  - D&C
  - Randomized incremental
  - QuickHull



# Conclusion

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- Recapitulation of 2D algorithms
- $\geq 3D$  algorithms
  - Gift wrapping
  - D&C
  - Randomized incremental
  - QuickHull





# References

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